Daily Report

Latin America

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Cuba

Foreign Ministry Note on Talks With Soviets

FL2409213791 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 24 Sep 91

[Text] The Cuban Foreign Ministry has issued the following note:

At the request of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, an exchange meeting with the Cuban Foreign Ministry has taken place in Havana in the framework of the regular consulations that are held between the Soviet and Cuban Governments about issues of general interest and bilateral affairs. For this purpose a Soviet delegation headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Valeriy Nikolayenko traveled to Havana and held working meetings on 21 and 22 September.

The official Cuban delegation was headed by First Deputy Foreign Minister Comrade Alcibiades Hidalgo. During these consultations, a preliminary exchange of opinions about the Soviet proposal to withdraw from Cuba the Soviet Armed Forces brigades located in our country was also begun. In this regard, it was agreed that official talks concerning this issue would begin at a later, mutually convenient date.

Cuba repeated to the Soviet side its opinions about this initiative, which were made public on 14 September, and explained in detail the reasons on which its position is based; that is, that the only proper thing to be done under these circumstances is for the Soviet proposal to be accompanied by negotiations for the withdrawal of the military presence the United States maintains at the Guantanamo Naval Base against the will of our people.

The Soviet Foreign Ministry delegation also met with Comrade Carlos Aldana, the secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba. The talks with the Soviet envoys took place in a climate of friendship and mutual respect.

Soviet Minister on Withdrawal

PA2309230491 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1621 GMT 23 Sep 91

[Report by Gerardo Gonzalez Vega]

[Text] Havana, 23 Sep (EFE)—Cuba and the USSR do not agree on the significance of the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Cuba, according to statements made today by the negotiators at the conclusion of the visit by Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Valeriy Nikolayenko.

Despite this disagreement, the Soviet envoy felt that his views had "been understood" by his Cuban interlocutors and that "positive results" had been achieved. The two countries also agreed that formal negotiations on the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Cuba will begin soon.

Nikolayenko arrived in Havana on 20 September to discuss the troop withdrawal announced in Moscow by President Mikhail Gorbachev. He held a news conference today at the airport in Havana before leaving for New York, where he will discuss the same topic with the U.S. Government.

The Soviet deputy foreign minister said that his country's troops consist of a training brigade of 2,800 soldiers, in addition to approximately 1,200 relatives of these servicemen, raising to 4,000 the total number of Soviets leaving Cuba.

Commenting on the significance of the withdrawal, which is the main point of contention between the USSR and Cuba, Nikolayenko said that "any reduction of our military presence is not going to be detrimental to Cuban security."

Cuban Vice Foreign Minister Alcibiades Hidalgo, who has been Nikolayenko's interlocutor during the latter's stay in Havana, came to the airport to bid Nikolayenko farewell. He told the press that the withdrawal of USSR soldiers "is a crucial topic for the national security" of Cuba.

The two officials spoke separately with the media but both agreed that the discussion on the timetable and details of the brigade's pullout has not begun yet and that this was a preliminary meeting. Hidalgo added: "We hope the negotiations will be conducted at a higher level" than the deputy minister's level.

Hidalgo also insisted that the Soviet withdrawal must be accompanied by the U.S. withdrawal from the Guantanamo Base, which the United States has been occupying since 1903. Nikolayenko, on the other hand, said he felt that that matter "constitutes a just demand by the Cuban people but is not directly linked to the withdrawal of the Soviet troops."

The Soviet official announced that he was flying today from Havana to New York to discuss the same topic with Bernard Aronson, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs. He said that the troops's withdrawal may contribute to the normalization of relations between Cuba and the United States. He also affirmed that the United States has already taken some partial measures toward this end, such as the reduction of overflights and military maneuvers around Cuba.

Nikolayenko added that the withdrawal does not mean the end of military cooperation between the USSR and Cuba, although in the future it must be based on Cuba's "defense capabilities" and nothing more. Other areas of "mutually advantageous" cooperation between the two countries will not be suspended either, although such cooperation will be based henceforth on national interests and the modernization of relations, not on ideological content, Nikolayenko said.

When asked by EFE about his country's future relations with Cuba, the official replied that "the concept of allies

has become outdated within the new international order, and ideological preferences no longer make sense. The USSR wants to maintain good relations with every country, be it the United States, China, or Cuba."

It is worth noting that Nikolayenko reiterated the already known stance of the post-communist USSR on the future incorporation into the international scene of its until recent Antillean ally, in the sense that it is only "through direct dialogue between the United States and Cuba that a solution leading to a decrease in tension will be found."

Troop Pullout Viewed

PA2409044691 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0100 GMT 24 Sep 91

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] The withdrawal of a Soviet military brigade from Cuban territory does not signify the end of military cooperation between the two countries, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Valeriy Nikolayenko stated today at the international airport of Havana, shortly before ending his visit to the island.

[Nikolayenko] "We maintain that the decision to pull out the brigade does not signify the end of our military cooperation."

Regarding economic and commercial exchanges between Cuba and the USSR, the Soviet envoy had this to say.

[Nikolayenko] "[Words indistinct] If we are not ending military cooperation, why must we end other cooperation? I believe that no aspect of the mutually advantageous cooperation between the USSR and Cuba will be affected."

The Soviet official clearly established the number of Soviet military troops in Cuba.

[Nikolayenko] "The brigade consists of 2,800 troops, plus 1,000 or so family members, making a total of approximately 4,000 persons.

[Reporter] "How long will it take for them to pull out?

[Nikolayenko] "That will be discussed during the negotiations. The consultations today were not dedicated to the specifics of when, in what manner, how long it will take, or in how many groups."

Cuban Vice Foreign Minister Alcibiades Hidalgo also made brief statements to the press.

[Hidalgo] "We held exchanges at the Foreign Ministry level on different topics of common interest. He referred to some of them, such as economic ties, and we had some political exchanges on the international situation. We also held a working meeting on the Soviet proposal to withdraw its training brigade from Cuba. We characterize this exchange of views in Havana as a preliminary meeting on the topic. That is, the negotiations on this subject between the Soviet Union and Cuba have not yet begun. We have had an exchange of ideas and an exchange of the two countries' views on this matter. Cuba continues to regard it as a crucial topic for its national security. ""We reiterated our views to the Soviet delegation in an editorial in the newspaper GRANMA. It gives the Cuban Government's assessment of this Soviet initiative. Above all, we believe that the only possible way to have this initiative really contribute to Cuba's national security is for it to be accompanied by the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Cuba, specifically from Guantanamo Naval Base. We also found understanding among the Soviet delegation regarding Cuba's views. We hope to continue to exchange views on this topic in the future.

[Reporter] "[Words indistinct] in Havana?

[Hidalgo] "It has not been specified as yet, but we hope it will be seen here for a long time."

Soviet Deputy Minister Departs

FL2309165991 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1625 GMT 23 Sep 91

[Text] Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Valeriy Nikolayenko has left Havana today for New York. After his four-day stay, Nikolayenko was seen off by his Cuban counterpart, Alcibiades Hidalgo, who made the following statements to a large group of foreign reporters and some Cuban reporters.

[Begin Hidalgo recording] This was an exchange at the Foreign Ministry level about different subjects of mutual interest. He [not further identified] has referred to some of them—the subject of economic relations, some general political exchanges about the international situation—and we also had a working session concerning the Soviet proposal to withdraw their training brigade from Cuba.

We have described this exchange, which was held in Havana, as a preliminary meeting on this subject—that is, negotiations on this issue have not yet started between the Soviet Union and Cuba. We have had an exchange of the different views, the different points of view that our two countries have on this issue. Cuba continues to believe that this is a crucial issue for its national security.

We repeated to the Soviet delegation the points of view contained in the GRANMA editorial you have read, which expresses the Cuban leadership's opinion about this Soviet initiative. Above all, we stated that we think that the only possible way this initiative can truly contribute to Cuba's national security is if it is accompanied by the withdrawal of the U.S. troops specifically from the Guantanamo Naval Base. [end recording]

Havana Cites Brazilian, U.S. Remarks at UN

FL2409015591 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Sep 91

[Text] Today, the 46th UN General Assembly officially began its sessions at its headquarters building in New York City. Among today's main speakers were the presidents of Brazil, El Salvador, and the United States. During the next three weeks, approximately 30 heads of state will participate in the sessions. Latin America will also be represented in speeches by the presidents of Venezuela, Panama, Guatemala, and Ecuador.

The speech by Brazilian President Fernando Collor de Mello opened the UN General Assembly debate. He pointed out the main challenges facing mankind: economic development, peace, and the doctrine of guaranteeing dignified lives for all peoples. Collor de Mello mentioned the difficulties limiting the realm of hopes of many nations, such as the critical problem of foreign debts which drains the meager resources from poor countries to industrialized countries. The Brazilian president added that in an effort to guarantee international peace, all countries represented are interested in discussing technology exchanges, violations of trade laws, and protectionist policies being sustained by industrialized nations.

During his speech, U.S. President George Bush mentioned the alleged prosperity of the present world which has been brought about by the end of the Cold War. Bush directed his words to Iraq, a country which has accused of disobeying the UN resolutions on the inspection of facilities for the production of mass destruction weapons. He emphasized that sanctions against Iraq must remain in place. President Bush also asked the UN members to annul the 1975 UN document which equates Zionism with racism.

Commentary Urges UN To Analyze U.S. Blockade

PA2309232491 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 1400 GMT 23 Sep 91

[Commentary by Roberto Morejon]

[Text] The freedom of all states to choose their political models should be guaranteed in a changing world where it is said that the Cold War is over. The Cold War is over, inasmuch as the alleged communist threat has been eliminated, the socialist community has disintegrated; and the Soviet Union, which had made more progress along the socialist path, has suspended the Communist Party. In reality, the understanding between the east and the west far from favors the freedom of a nation to choose a convenient political model if it differs from the overused formulas of the market economy and the multiparty system.

The global unipolarity, established by the United States, rules out the possibility of a state like Cuba remaining on the path of socialism. The leaders and the majority of the people on this Caribbean island reject capitalism, and the White House responds to this by intensifying its economic and trade blockade.

The blockade, which was imposed three decades ago, continues to be the favorite weapon of the United States even though it is practically the only country that continues to implement it. In the current stage of international relations, when there is hope that relations can be restructured based on detente and cooperation, it is particularly unjust, contradictory, and irrational to maintain and intensify a blockade against Cuba that goes against the most basic rules of international coexistence.

The practice of eight U.S. presidents and their collaborators for the last 30 years has been to deny Cuba access to food, medication, technology, and goods from the United States in order to promote shortages and, eventually, the collapse of the Caribbean nation. The blockade imposed by Washington created heavy losses for Cuba and forced it to modify its economic relations, which up until 1959 had depended on the U.S. market.

The possibilities of foreign financing for the Cuban economy have been seriously limited for several reasons, including the economic harassment by the northern country. Such an important issue will be analyzed by the 46th UN General Assembly. The motivations and consequences of such economic harassment so demand it.

Cuba Appointed to Atomic Energy Commission

PA2109170991 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0100 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Report by Urbino Amaya]

[Text] Cuba has been appointed to the Vice Presidency of the International Atomic Energy Conference during its 35th session, which is currently underway with the participation of more than 90 member states and the International Atomic Energy Organization in Vienna, the beautiful capital of Austria.

Jose Luis Santana Carvalho, chairman of Brazil's National Nuclear Energy Commission, was elected president of the conference. The conference approved Cuba's candidacy as vice president of the session, to represent the Latin American and Caribbean region. Cuba participates in the event with a delegation led by Fidel Castro Diaz-Balart, executive secretary of Cuba's National Committee for Peaceful Utilization of Atomic Energy. The conference also approved the applications submitted by Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, and Yemen to become member states of the international organization.

Topics discussed during the conference include the organization's 1992 budget of $207 million; the approval of a $52.5 million limit on voluntary contributions that will be destined for the technical cooperation and aid program—a measure intended to strengthen international cooperation on nuclear safety and radiological protection; Iraq's noncompliance with its obligations under the protection agreements; and others.

A scientific conference that coincides with the 35th general conference of the international atomic energy organization is also being held. The event is being attended by Alejandro Bilbao Alfonso, vice secretary general of Cuba's Executive Secretariat for Nuclear Affairs and head state inspector for nuclear and radiological safety.

[Begin recording] [Bilbao] We have been participating in this conference, discussing issues that have been reviewed from a technical viewpoint. We have supported, in some cases, the basic conclusions reached in this scientific session. Likewise, during the last scientific session held on the afternoon of 18 September we analyzed the results of the symposium that was recently held in Helsinki. This symposium is important at the international level because it dealt with electricity and ecology issues.

[Amaya] Bilbao, referring to the Juragua electronuclear facility's reactor, could you say that it is a completely reliable reactor from a nuclear and radiological point of view?

[Bilbao] Talking about Cuba's case, the design of our electronuclear facility—meaning the project—calls for [word indistinct] 440 reactors, meaning 440 megawatts each. This is an advanced model—the B318—with safety characteristics that meet the current standards demanded at the international level. This is an antiseismic model with a double security system, meaning a passive system and an active system. In fact, the system meets current safety requirements for these facilities.

It is also appropriate to mention that these scientific sessions have emphasized the conclusions reached at the conference on nuclear safety and its perspectives for the future, held from 2 to 6 September. At the session, problems related to the latest security principles and criteria that must be implemented were discussed. The participants discussed the possibility of adopting norms, and everyone agreed—by consensus—on the need to implement the essential principles and views, like those of the International Commission for Nuclear Safety. This is an advisory commission for the International Nuclear Energy Organization.

When establishing the criteria and fundamental principles of nuclear safety at the nuclear installations, we also have to deal with the problem of what to do with the nuclear installations that have been built according to the old norms. I am referring to the norms that prevailed before the current criteria were adopted. The organization is in charge of establishing the requirements, which should basically be fulfilled by these installations, and the additional security measures that must be implemented in this regard. We also have to deal with the problem of radioactive waste, which is very much linked to nuclear energy. It is one of the problems we have to deal with. What are we going to do with radioactive waste? From the technical point of view, everyone concluded that a solution could be found. However, we have to make decisions, with the assistance of other countries, to resolve the problem of the radioactive waste at these installations.

[Amaya] Bilbao, I understand that work is being done to create a climate of trust with regard to the peaceful use of nuclear energy so that it can even be used for production and development in the future. What can you tell me about this?

[Bilbao] People must understand that we have to continue developing nuclear energy because it is necessary for humanity. Despite the negative aspects of nuclear energy, those that are criticized when compared to other energy production sources, nuclear energy continues to be a much more safe and reliable source and efforts are being made to step up safety measures even more so that the public can have greater trust and understanding of this type of energy and the need to use it.

[Amaya] What has been Cuba's contribution on the use of nuclear energy?

[Bilbao] Our country, which will become a nuclear energy user, has contributed with its first electronuclear facility. As you know, the construction of this installation has reached an advanced stage. For the second half of this five-year period, we plan to begin operating the first block, which should play an important role, of course, using all the international experience in this regard.

CEA Increases Safety Program in Juragua

FL2009182891 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 20 Sep 91

[Text] The name ANCON no longer belongs only to a beach in Sancti Spiritus, an Ecuadoran port, or a Peruvian town. Now, it is also the name of a nuclear safety system. The acronym ANCON [expansion unknown] is the name of a Cuban-developed computerized program to do reassurance tests for probability analysis of electronuclear plant safety. In 1988, the first version was unveiled in Prague where it was endorsed by experts. The second version stirred great interest in Hungary. The third and fourth versions were highly praised in Vienna, headquarters of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA]. This system contributes to strengthening the safety program of the Cuban Atomic Energy Commission [CEA] in Juragua. IAEA specialist Luis Derman characterized the system as revolutionary and promising.

USSR's Nikolayenko Explains Relations With Cuba

PA2409142891 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1326 GMT 24 Sep 91

[Text] The Soviet Union will base its political reform and economic development on Mexico's experience and importance, according to Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Valeriy Nikolayenko who visited our country on 23 September. He spoke about the USSR's view of Mexico. He noted that the Soviet Union will use Mexico's experience in political and economic reforms to develop commerce and to reinforce its international relations.

The Soviet official, interviewed in Mexico City, said that President Carlos Salinas de Gortari's recent visit to the USSR helped bring closer political ties between the two nations.

With regard to the Cuban situation, he remarked that in the face of the new Soviet reality, subsidies for that island will be eliminated, adding that relations with it will be like those with any other country. However, Nikolayenko criticized the U.S. blockade of Cuba, the sole purpose of which is to hurt a single leader. He spoke in favor of a dialogue between the two countries.

Rejects U.S. Interference

PA2409044591 Paris AFP in Spanish 0042 GMT 24 Sep 91

[Text] Mexico City, 23 Sep (AFP)—On 23 September, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Valeriy Nikolayenko said in Mexico City that the agreements between the USSR and Cuba are "solely between the two nations, and that the interferences and recommendations of the United States will not by any means be tolerated."

During a seven-hour stopover in Mexico City, enroute from Havana to New York, Nikolayenko suggested at a news conference "that bilateral negotiations should be initiated" between Cuba and the United States "to end" the "negative" U.S. blockade on the island.

The U.S. blockade on Cuba "has been negative in every sense, and the differences between the two countries should be resolved through dialogue and mutual respect," Nikolayenko said.

He added that during his visit to Cuba, he initiated talks with Cuban President Fidel Castro "on a preliminary level, to negotiate the withdrawal of the Soviet troops" stationed on the island, but a date has not yet been established for that event.

Soviet Ambassador on Cuba's Military Strength

PA2409160391 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1025 GMT 24 Sep 91

[Text] Mexico City, 24 Sep (NOTIMEX)—Soviet Ambassador to Mexico Oleg Darusenkov said he believes the possibility of the United States invading Cuba very remote, in spite of the withdrawal of the Soviet troops from the island.

In an interview with NOTIMEX, the diplomat explained that the withdrawal of Soviet soldiers from the island will establish the precedent necessary for the United States to leave the military base it maintains in Guantanamo, Cuba.

Darusenkov said the Soviet and U.S. withdrawals would fully eliminate the military factor from the Caribbean nation's political picture.

The demilitarization of the Cuban problem is a very important step for the total solution of the crisis on the island, he said, adding that the possibility of an armed attack against the island is difficult.

He said that Cuba has significant forces to resist any aggression, particularly in view of the "the war of the entire people" concept, that—according to the diplomat—is very valid in the Cuban case.

As for relations between the Soviet Union and Cuba, the ambassador to Mexico insisted that there is no reason to talk about moving apart, rather of a change in the form of maintaining the ties according to the changes happening in the world.

He added that both countries have cultivated a very fruitful friendship in three decades of relations, and this is a foundation on which to build positive and fruitful cooperation in this new era.

Concerning the admission of the Baltic republics (Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania) into the United Nations, Oleg Darusenkov pointed out that it will help the USSR's political stability.

He said that the world has not changed in such a radical manner that war will disappear as a threat, and therefore the Soviet Union must be sure of its defenses. This makes it necessary to solve the problem of military bases in the Baltic republics, he concluded.

Socialist Party Demands Support for Cuba

PA2309161091 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0932 GMT 22 Sep 91

[Text] Mexico City, 22 Sep (NOTIMEX)—The Popular Socialist Party's (PPS) Central Committee, on the second working day of its 100th full meeting, has asked the Mexican Government to participate in all fora where the lifting of the blockade against Cuba is demanded.

The party's Secretary General Inadelsio Sayago Herrera said during a news conference that party advisers had

decided to support the Cuban Government and its people as well as the Marxist-Leninists in the USSR.

In two resolutions, the PPS demands that Mexican authorities expand bilateral relations with Cuba in all sectors and supply the island with petroleum in exchange for its products.

As for events in the USSR, the PPS reiterated its support for those it called "the true Marxist-Leninists" as they are the only ones who can offer hope to overcome the "black night of counterrevolution," Sayago Herrera said.

The PPS will debate on national issues, among them previous elections and the changes made in their plan of action.

El Salvador

Ponce Explains Position on FMLN Joining Army

PA2309004991 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 21 Sep 91

[Report by Maria Teresa Fajardo]

[Text] Defense Minister General Rene Emilio Ponce has stated that the members of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN, must meet a number of conditions before being considered for integration into the Salvadoran Armed Forces, because at this time the legal conditions for this to occur do not exist. According to the senior military leader, the guerrillas must return to civilian life and earn the right to become members of the Salvadoran Army, because it is a legally established and recognized organization that must be respected.

[Begin recording] [Ponce] At this time the legal conditions do not exist for FMLN members to join one of the country's institutional forces.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] civilian police?

[Ponce] Once they enjoy their full rights as citizens, then, as any other citizen, they will be able to be lawyers and doctors, and to pursue a military career if they so desire. However, the essential and basic thing is that they join the country's civilian and political life and earn the same full rights of any other citizen.

[Reporter] The Armed Forces definitely do not accept the integration of any FMLN member into their ranks as [words indistinct]?

[Ponce] We have said repeatedly that in our country there is currently an armed institution. It is professional, it is constitutionally recognized—that is, legal—and it is legitimate. There is also a group of terrorists, criminals, who have been wreaking destruction, who have been bringing death and sorrow to all the Salvadoran people, and who for the time being do not have any right to join this legal institution. The FMLN continues to be illegal and clandestine. It continues to be a terrorist group that has attacked the Salvadoran people and as long as the conditions that I have mentioned do not exist, there is no possibility that they can join the ranks of the Army or any civilian police that is created.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] to obtain a change in the Armed Forces, what conditions does the Army set on the FMLN?

[Ponce] We do not have to set any conditions for the FMLN. What we have is a great dramatic effort in support of the efforts the Salvadoran Government to achieve peace in our country through civilized and reasonable means, such as the dialogue that is currently underway. Our institution believes that the world is changing, that the institution cannot oppose or be at the sidelines of these changes, that all levels of Salvadoran society must change, and that the armed institution, as part of that society, must be restructured and modernized and its structures improved. That is what we are planning. We do not demand anything in exchange from the FMLN. We are acting based on our conviction and because we believe this is advisable, and because this is what the people demand from the Armed Forces. That is what we are going to do. [end recording]

Commenting on the extended stay of President Alfredo Cristiani in New York, Gen. Ponce said that this shows that the talks have not been easy. Therefore, he said, we should be optimistic and have hope that agreements will be reached.

[Begin Ponce recording] This means that the talks have not been easy. There is a big effort to attain peace in our country and as the UN secretary general has stated, willingness to attain peace must exist on the part of both sides. This willingness is now being tested. The government's position is apparently supported by friendly democratic governments. This is good backing for the government of President Cristiani. As we said prior to President Cristiani's trip to New York, we believe that based on the situation in the country, we should be optimistic and have hope that an agenda will be agreed upon to accelerate reaching a substantive agreement that will lead to peace. For the government, such a substantive agreement would be to reach a total cease-fire. This does not mean giving respites little by little, such as through truces. It means reaching substantive agreements that will bring closer the moment when a definite halt to all hostile violent actions in our country will be signed. [end recording]

Gen. Ponce also said that U.S. military aid to El Salvador will continue to be necessary as long as a definite cease-fire is not signed. He said that it is essential to counteract the advance of the FMLN in various fields. He said that if a halt to hostilities is agreed upon in the current meeting with the UN secretary general, the economic aid can be directed toward socioeconomic projects.

The defense minister made these statements during his participation in the conference entitled "The Armed Forces in the National Reality," which was organized by the Center for Democratic Studies in San Salvador.

Presidency Minister on Armed Forces Issue

PA2009230691 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Interview with Presidency Minister Oscar Santamaria by unidentified reporter in San Salvador; date not given—live or recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Dr. Santamaria, we know that efforts are being exerted to attain peace in El Salvador. Aside from all those efforts, what could be the worst obstacle which precludes the achievement of peace?

[Santamaria] Basically, the topics that are still pending deal with the Armed Forces, the cease-fire, and another point included in the Caracas agenda—but we do not think that this point represents an obstacle. We are talking about economic and social issues. The Armed Forces issue is where the dialogue has reached a stalemate, perhaps because demands—exaggerated demands, we might say—have been presented. Those demands do not correspond to our reality. I am talking about the FMLN's [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] proposal.

We have stated that the existence of the Armed Forces is not negotiable and, furthermore, the constitutional reforms have clearly defined this. The reforms state that the Armed Forces are permanent, so we see no reason why the FMLN now wants to say that it is necessary to create conditions for the implementation of the agreements or why it requests the dismantling of the Armed Forces or the partial incorporation of its members in the Armed Forces. Those are points which have caused a stalemate in the process.

We believe that if the FMLN gives up this position and acts in a rational way, which is what we have been asking for; and if the negotiation includes all the topics instead of concentrating on one topic, because the negotiation involves several topics [pauses] we have reached agreements on the electoral system. Proof of this is that the current Legislative Assembly's integration is part of the agreement by consensus achieved by the interparty commission in September 1990. This served as the basis for the March 1991 elections for the creation of a pluralist assembly, which includes all the ideologies and policies of the country. We also have reached a human rights agreement and everyone may now see how it is being verified, supervised by UN Observers for El Salvador members.

We might add to this the constitutional reforms process, which includes important issues such as human rights, the management of justice, the electoral system, and the Armed Forces. Therefore, we see that this is part of the changes in the country's institutional structures through constitutional reforms. All this represents the framework for a series of negotiations and this cannot be seen from a restricted viewpoint, like the FMLN is doing, claiming that the agreements will be implemented if they are allowed to join the Armed Forces.

The United Nations is guaranteeing the process; it is involved in large-scale verification; and its men can attest that the government has fulfilled all the agreements which have been signed so far. Thus, aside from the points I mentioned, we believe that the process should enter its final phase because the points that are considered an obstacle are being overcome.

Nicaraguan Embassy Communique on Arms Trafficking

PA2109232491 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 20 Sep 91 p 3

[Text] The Nicaraguan Embassy in El Salvador has charged that Salvadoran subversives have received arms from Cuba through the Mexico-Belize-Honduran northern coast route, "and everybody knows this, but no one says anything about it."

In a communique issued on 18 September, the Nicaraguan Embassy stated that there is only talk about the alleged trafficking of arms to the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] from Nicaragua "solely because this route is a well-known one from the past." However, the communique added, arms have also reached the Salvadoran subversives from Costa Rica.

According to the embassy, the trafficking of arms to the FMLN from Nicaragua is a problem that continues to cause concern among important segments of El Salvador. The communique stated that despite the efforts made by President Violeta Chamorro to stop the flow of arms to the FMLN, the problem "appears to continue."

To some, the problem stems from the fact that Sandinists wield real power in Managua, but this claim, "beside being false, is extremely simplistic," the communique added.

According to the Nicaraguan Embassy, President Alfredo Cristiani recently said that "sectors of the Army are still involved in the transshipment of arms" but not the military institution or President Chamorro.

Many segments of the population criticize the Chamorro administration not only for the transshipment of arms, but also for allowing terrorrist leaders to keep mansions and residences in Managua and maintain training camps for combatants on Nicaraguan territory.

Anticommunist Front Threatens Rebel Leader

PA2009231991 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] We will now read the letter in which the Salvadoran Anticommunist Front, FAS, makes death threats to peoples' leader Mirta A. Lopez. Once again Colonel Rene Emilio Ponce, defense and public security minister; Vice President Jose Francisco Merino; Armando Calderon Sol, party president of ruling Nationalistic Republican Alliance; and the rest of the FAS leaders attempt to silence people's leaders by eliminating them. These threats are in no way different than the reiterated accusations made by Col. Elena Fuentes and President Alfredo Cristiani, in which they link peoples' leaders with the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front. We call on the UN Observers for El Salvador verification commission to take note of this letter.

The letter was dated 9 September 1991 and states:

Terrorist leader Mirta A. Lopez, up front organization.

The FAS reiterates that:

1. We are willing to defend our country and exert all of the weight of the justice system against all communist leaders who attempt to sell out the nation.

2. In the same fashion that we eliminated the Jesuits from the Central American University, we will continue in our determination to put an end to the lives of those who call themselves leaders of the Machiavellian FMLN-FDR [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front-Revolutionary Democratic Front] organizations, and

3. Your young life is in danger, your end is near.

Our front, together with true patriots, will defeat the enemies of peace in El Salvador.

That was the text of the letter send by FAS to Mirta A. Lopez and we repeat, this is an outright death threat.

Nicaragua

Taiwan Officials Deny Ortega To Sign Accords

PA2409021991 Managua Radio Catolica in Spanish 1130 GMT 23 Sep 91

[Report by Osvaldo Boni Henriquez]

[Excerpt] General Humberto Ortega, commander of the Sandinist Popular Army, will not sign any type of bilateral military cooperation agreement with the Taiwanese Government. The Taiwanese news agency reported that Gen. Ortega is expected to arrive in Taiwan on 25 September for an eight-day visit. The report added that Ortega, who is former President Daniel Ortega's brother and a key figure in the previous Marxist Sandinist government, which lost power in last year's elections; was invited by the Taiwanese defense minister. Ortega is scheduled to meet with government officials and visit economic organizations and military installations during his visit. On 21 September, Foreign Ministry officials denied reports that Ortega would sign a military cooperation agreement with Taiwan. Humberto Ortega will not sign any military cooperation agreements with this country said Taiwanese officials. The news agency did not give further details or information regarding the purpose of Ortega's visit and government officials were not available for comment. [passage omitted]

Ex-Soldiers Arrested for Stealing Weapons

PA2209220491 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 21 Sep 91 pp 1, 8

[Text] Unofficial sources have told our newspaper that authorities of the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] recently apprehended 14 individuals, mostly former soldiers, who stole a large number of weapons from an arsenal at a military unit near La Laguna, Xiloa.

The recovered weapons include 19 SAM-7 and SAM-9 surface-to-air missiles with five firing switches and 800 mortars with 81-MM shells. The weapons were recently stolen, but the individuals eventually apprehended were unable to take them out of the country as planned because the theft was discovered in time and because of the effectiveness of the operation to recover them.

In addition to the former soldiers, two Colombians and a National Opposition Unity [UNO] attorney, are also involved in the theft. All the weapons that were recovered within the past 48 hours were found in this attorney's home.

The source revealed that the investigations determined that the reason behind the theft is not political, but monetary, because all those involved have remained unemployed after being discharged from the EPS because of the armed forces reduction plan. They had planned to sell the weapons in Colombia.

It is not known whether the buyers were guerrillas or drug traffickers, but it was reported that they had offered $1 million for Redeye missiles alone. The missiles were of the same kind that several EPS soldiers sold to the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front in El Salvador.

In view of the proposal to purchase $1 million in weapons, the former soldiers offered to sell these individuals up to 100 missiles. This leads to the presumption that they had planned to steal more weapons from EPS depots near La Laguna, Xiloa.

All the stolen weapons were found in a house owned by a UNO attorney, located along the dirt road that starts at Las Nubes, El Crucero and ends at approximately kilometer 10.5 of the highway to Masaya.

The source also said that the group leader is a former pilot of the Sandinist Air Force's Antiaircraft Defense who had been discharged for disciplinary reasons two and a half years ago.

His deputy is a former EPS member who was in charge of the Xiloa depot from where the weapons were stolen. He was discharged about two months ago because of the armed forces reduction plan.

One of the Colombians who contacted the former soldiers to buy the weapons is still in Nicaragua and being sought throughout the country. The other one left for Colombia with pictures of the weapons to offer them to prospective buyers.

It is presumed that the group managed to withdraw the weapons from the EPS arsenal at Xiloa because its leader had been depot chief and was familiar with all the security mechanisms. An active soldier who works at the depot and a Government Ministry official are also involved in this theft.

Although the source refused to reveal the names of the Nicaraguans who were captured and Colombians who are involved, our newspaper has learned that the detainees will be presented at a news conference later today. The Defense Ministry's Public Relations Office has summoned the local and foreign media to the Tejada Brothers' Auditorium of the Carlos Aguero School at 0800.

EPS Reports Recovery of Missiles

PA2309182691 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Sep 91

[Text] Another important piece of news this week was the frustrated attempt to steal missiles, grenades, and other high caliber weapons. With an honesty that we hope vindictive UNO [National Opposition Union] members will bear in mind, the Sandinist People's Army [EPS], through Major General Joaquin Cuadra, chief of staff, held a news conference to present the individuals involved in this crime. It was made very clear that the reason for the theft was not political but monetary. Let us hear Maj. Gen. Joaquin Cuadra with details of this frustrated theft of weapons from an EPS arsenal.

[Begin Cuadra recording] Military Counterintelligence and the Directorate of Information for Defense [Direccion de Informacion para la Defensa] detected that the special security system at Depot No. 6 of the Army central logistics unit had been broken. In view of this, the EPS Command ordered an investigation and an inventory of Depot No. 6, where a large number of EPS surface-to-air missiles are stored. As a result of the inventory, it was found that 20 surface-to-air missiles of the [words indistinct] type were missing.

On approximately 12 August, through the Sandinist Police, we learned of a military weapons transaction that would include missiles. The police detected the transaction through their information system. This information was passed on to the EPS. Based on the information provided by the police, the inventory at the depots, and the investigations by Military Counterintelligence and the Directorate of Information for Defense, we discovered the existence of a gunrunning network. It is made up of the following citizens: Luis Nemesio Cortes Flores, Francisco Jose Aburto Loasiga, Roger Mauricio Espinoza Caldera, Harry Morales Alfaro, Rafael Medina Mejia, Porfirio Medina Mejia, [name indistinct], and two individuals known as [word indistinct] and Saul. The investigations revealed that this network of arms traffickers is linked to Colombian Jorge Armando Monge Benavides and another Colombian known as Oscar, who says he is from the 19 April Movement.

The main individuals involved in the theft were arrested on 19 September. The 20 stolen surface-to-air missiles were recovered. They were found hidden in a house located near the La Perfect dairy, five blocks to the lake, one block down, half a block to the lake, in the Santa Clara neighborhood. Nicaraguan Virgilio Vallejos Cruz lives in the house. [end recording]

* Anti-Recontra Group Reported in Nueva Segovia

91P40446A

[Editorial Report] Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish of 12 September 1991 on page 18 reports that 20 members of the Internal Armed Revolutionary Front [FIRA], armed with AK rifles and wearing military uniforms, surrounded a public transportation vehicle traveling between Jalapa and Esteli, in an effort to gain publicity for their organization. According to the article, the FIRA members spray-painted the vehicle with the slogan: "FIRA—Death to Virgilio Godoy and the Recontra," and forced the driver to deliver a cassette tape to the local pro-Sandinist radio station in order to broadcast a communique, which stated that FIRA's mission is to combat crime perpetrated by "recontras" [former contras who have taken up arms]. The article further explains that FIRA members are peasants who are not against the government, but rather who are against the increase in violent activities in Nueva Segovia and consequently are taking matters into their own hands in the face of inaction on the part of the responsible authorities.

Human Rights Center Studies Violence

PA2109220991 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1205 GMT 20 Sep 91

[Text] Political revenge is the leading cause of violence in the northern part of the country. Following an investigation conducted in Matagalpa and Jinotega, the Nicaraguan Human Rights Center [Cedhun], headed by Dr. Vilma Nunez, has found that approximately 100 people have died within the past year in violent actions sparked by a polarization of opinions and political vengeance. The dead include peasants, demobilized Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] members, recontras, Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] and National Opposition Unity [UNO] followers, Sandinist People's Army [EPS] members, and government representatives.

Cedhun officials will meet on 20 September with political, social, and government leaders in Matagalpa to study the problem. Nunez explains the study that Cedhun is currently conducting.

[Begin Nunez recording] We have been analyzing the violations of the right to life in Nicaragua. These violations have been viewed as individual occurrences, but in reality, such violations have been taking place regularly in various ways. We have been conducting this investigation throughout the country and have estimated the number of these violations based on reports from various sources. According to these reports, over 60 percent of the violations have occurred in Region Six. A total of 77 cases has resulted in 100 dead. We checked the reports with several sources. This is why we have called for a meeting to be held at the Matagalpa university. We invited RN members from all municipalities; political party representatives; UNO, FSLN, and EPS members; government representatives, including judicial branch members; and other authorities. We are studying not only the level of violence, but also the standard of living in these communities, where only a very small number of the cases reported has been investigated by judicial authorities. [end recording]

Argentina

Di Tella To Address UN General Assembly

PY2309132291 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2042 GMT 22 Sep 91

[Text] New York, 22 Sep (TELAM)—At the UN General Assembly tomorrow, Argentina will propose its "reincorporation in the world because it has once again become a reliable country that is keeping its word and putting its economy in order." Argentina will ask the United States and the European community to suspend agriculture subsidies.

Argentine Foreign Minister Guido di Tella briefed Argentine media representatives at the Argentine suite at the United Nations. He spoke about the contents of the 20-minute speech he will give in the United States.

Di Tella is scheduled to have lunch tomorrow with U.S. President George Bush during a meeting to which other foreign ministers were invited, and on 26 September he will meet with his British and American counterparts Douglas Hurd and James Baker, respectively.

"The speech will center on Argentina's reincorporation in the world because it has once again become a reliable country that is keeping its word, putting its economy in order, cooperating and struggling for its interests, yet doing so in a manner that the world can and should understand," Di Tella said.

The minister said that in his speech he will make a "passing" reference to Argentina's recent withdrawal from the Nonaligned Movement based on "our conception of our place in the world." He will also mention that we sent ships to the Persian Gulf.

"When Argentina reaches a different situation, becomes a different economic power, it will be able to negotiate in a very different manner. We are currently negotiating much better than two years ago because our level of reliability and order means that our claims are heard," he said.

Among his meetings in New York, the foreign minister gave top priority to the meeting he will hold with the so-called Rio Group, of which Argentina is a member with 12 other Latin American countries, because it is "our group of reference and belonging."

Di Tella said that his speech will "indirectly refer" to the situation in Cuba, since Argentina wishes "a pluralist democracy, freedom of the press, and respect for all kinds of human rights" in Cuba.

"We hope to see Cuba integrated to the American continent system and we believe that the Cuban Government and people are capable of making those changes in a peaceful and agreed upon manner," the minister said.

As for the claims for the United States and the European Community to eliminate agricultural subsidies, Di Tella said: "Given our friendly relations with the United States we may say that such practices are aberrant and harm both Argentina and themselves as well."

"Argentina wants to convince the United States that subsidies are harmful for both sides because they distort the economy and make it lose competitiveness allowing the progress of, for example, Japan," he said.

Regarding Argentina's possibility of joining the Brady Plan and renegotiate the foreign debt, he said: "When President Carlos Menem comes to the United States next November, Argentina's admission in this program will be discussed."

Di Tella reported that during the first few months of 1992, Congress will discuss the adoption of the Latin American safeguard system, through which the countries of the region can protect their intellectual property rights just as in developed countries.

Addresses Assembly

PY2409025091 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2110 GMT 23 Sep 91

[Report by special NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS correspondent Jose Maria Monzon]

[Text] United Nations, 23 Sep (NA)—Argentina condemned the United States and EC agricultural subsidy policies before the world today. It also expressed its desire to strengthen freedom, democracy, and economic opening as a means to "break the isolation" and strengthen the foundation of the new international order.

This was stated by Foreign Minister Guido di Tella in his address here this afternoon before the 46th United Nations General Assembly [UNGA] attended by representatives of over 160 countries. Di Tella's speech was preceded this morning by speeches by Brazilian President Fernando Collor and U.S. President George Bush.

In the speech the Argentine foreign minister energetically demanded the elimination of protectionist practices that, he said, "distort the international markets for agricultural and livestock products through the implementation of support measures for production and subsidies for exports."

Di Tella also referred to the Malvinas Islands issue by pointing out that "the new climate" that prevails in Argentina's relationship with Great Britain "should allow—at the appropriate moment—the resumption of negotiations related to the sovereignty issue." At the request of the Argentine and British Governments, the Malvinas Islands issue was not included on the UNGA agenda since negotiations on the subject are being carried out on a strictly bilateral level.

Referring to another issue, Di Tella reiterated Argentina's support for UN decisions, for the collective safety system mentioned in the UN Charter, and, particularly, "for the primary role of the Security Council, which is responsible for preserving peace."

Di Tella noted that the economic and political changes currently underway in Argentina are the result of three complementary crises: "hyper-inflation, the human rights crisis, and the foreign crisis." The foreign minister said that these three elements "joined to generate a complete renewal of Argentina's economic and political profile at the internal as well as the external level."

He added that "the key to the Argentine evolution" was the strengthening of freedom and democracy that goes hand in hand with economic reform and opening." [quotation mark as received]

Further along in his speech the Argentine foreign minister mentioned Argentina's "active support of the Security Council during the Gulf war, the contribution of several observers to various peace-seeking operations, and our explicit support for the changes in East Europe."

Di Tella said that "additional proof" of Argentina's commitment to international peace and safety "is our excellent, mutually advantageous relationship with the United Kingdom under the umbrella of a formula agreed upon with the British government that protects Argentina's irrevocable rights over the Malvinas, Georgias, and South Sandwich Islands."

In this regard, Di Tella voiced his confidence that "this new climate between the two countries" will contribute "to the resumption of negotiations on the sovereignty issue that was repeatedly requested by the UNGA."

Di Tella also referred to the recently created Common Market of the South (Mercosur) and said that the scope of this new regional economic arena "becomes obvious if one takes into account the fact that the population of the countries that are involved amounts to 190 million inhabitants and that their gross domestic production amounts to more than $400 billion."

Di Tella also praised President George Bush's Americas Initiative, and said: "It is a positive proposal that encourages us to work together and in solidarity, based on the principle of equality, on concrete matters such as trade, debt, and investments."

Referring to Argentine relations with neighboring countries, Di Tella stressed the border agreements signed with Chile in August 1991 and the nuclear agreement signed with Brazil for the peaceful use of nuclear energy. In that context, he also noted the agreement prohibiting the production of chemical and biological weapons recently signed with Chile and Brazil in Mendoza.

He added that the Argentine Government "refuses to be an accomplice to the justification, under any excuse, of violations of human rights and the fundamental liberties. Economic and social rights are no less important than civilian and political rights, but the exercise of the first cannot serve as a pretext to violate the latter," he said.

Referring to the case of Cuba, Di Tella said Argentina "fervently hopes that Cuba will soon return to the international community, walking the path of a pluralist democracy and a market economy, which has already been adopted by its old friends from the former Soviet bloc."

Referring to Argentina's recent withdrawal from the Nonaligned Movement, he said that this decision "reflects our opinion that, with the end of the cold war and the foundation of a new international order, the concept of nonalignment has lost its meaning." He added that the enforcement of elemental liberties and the violation of human rights in some member countries of the Nonaligned Movement were some of the reasons that led Argentina to withdraw from that Third World forum.

He said that the government of President Carlos Menem "has decided to eliminate worthless foreign policy confrontations because he feels they are counterproductive to the country's interests and those of the new international order."

Di Tella also asked the assembly for "an end to protectionist measures that distort the international markets for agriculture and livestock products through the adoption of measures that support the creation of subsidies for exports."

He said: "These policies have no rational economic basis for both the countries that implement them and for us because, on the one hand, they prevent efficient producers from selling their agricultural product exports, and, on the other hand, they punish taxpayers, consumers, and the largely urban sectors of the countries that implement these protectionist policies."

He added: "Only the very rich countries can adopt such mistaken policies, but even they will compromise their overall productivity and jeopardize their future competitiveness in adopting these subsidy policies."

The Argentine foreign minister also referred to the reestablishment of diplomatic relations with South Africa, arguing that to the Argentine Government "it seems to be encouraging the program of political, social, and economic reforms implemented by the Pretoria government in an effort to totally and definitely dismantle the unjust apartheid regime."

Di Tella also supported the U.S. call for realization of a new peace conference in the Middle East and pledged support for "a just, peaceful, and definite solution to the Palestine issue."

"The time has come to leave aside offensive references based on analogies between Zionism and racism as

another element to create an appropriate climate to contribute to the current diplomatic initiatives," he concluded.

Radical Party Leaders Commit To Dialogue

PY2409014691 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 23 Sep 91 p 7

[Text] (NA-DYN)—The main leaders of the Radical Party yesterday expressed their commitment to establishing a political dialogue with the Justicialist administration on the condition that they be able to choose the interlocutors.

Meanwhile, the Radical National Council chairman, former President Raul Alfonsin, underlined that his party "is the only political alternative in the country, at least for the coming decade."

While Alfonsin stated that "there will be no changes in the way the party is being managed," four of the top Radical leaders expressed their support for Alfonsin's leadership and the legitimacy of his claim to represent the party in its talks with the government.

The Cordoba daily La Voz del Interior yesterday published interviews with the governor of that province, former Radical presidential candidate Eduardo Angeloz, metropolitan leader Fernando de la Rua and Buenos Aires Radical Council chairman Juan Manuel Casella. The latter stated that "Alfonsin must go on leading the party because his disappearance from his current position would leave the party in the air."

However, De la Rua—who won the primaries in this City against pro-Alfonsin candidates—considered that "only the participation of all Radical leaders will guarantee the success of our actions."

Although Angeloz, De la Rua and Casella agreed that political dialogue with the Peronists is essential, they all mentioned conditions that the governing party must comply with in order to reach lasting agreements over important domestic issues.

According to De la Rua, the government must "take clear steps in the struggle against corruption, which includes better access for opposition legislators to information about government acts."

For his part, Casella contended that "for the dialogue to be fruitful, the government must show more respect towards the role of the opposition as a factor which balances the democratic system."

In turn, Alfonsin said in an interview published yesterday by the newspaper Clarin that "we will receive the opinion and participation of all sectors within the party because I wish to have everybody near and listen to everybody's advice. That is what I have done while presiding over the main party body," he stressed, "and that is what I plan to go on doing."

Meanwhile, Deputy-elect Leopoldo Moreau (Buenos Aires) supported Alfonsin's leadership during a party rally held in the northern Greater Buenos Aires suburb of Vicente Lopez.

Moreau considered that "the Radical Party is a movement where people are more important than the leaders; we have a commitment to democracy and the transformation of our society."

Justicialists Party Supports Menem's Program

PY2209223491 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 21 Sep 91 p 11

[Text] The National Congress of the Justicialist Party gave its full support last night to the programme of President Carlos Menem's government and modified the party statutes to permit the executive board to intervene in the provinces, name candidates and establish electoral alliances.

Moreover, it backed the interventions already ordered by the Peronist National Council in the provinces of Corrientes, Santa Fe, Tucuman, Salta—already normalized—and Jujuy.

The head of state closed the deliberations after justifying the policies of his administration, especially the withdrawal from the Nonaligned Movement and boosting ties with the United States, which he referred to as "partners of Argentina."

Ha also asked for widespread support from the party in order to triumph in the elections next October 27.

According to party sources, the decision of the Congress to modify its statues, made during the plenary held yesterday night in the Club Ciudad de Buenos Aires, will allow members of the "light blue faction" to take control of the party. Those individuals include, among others, Interior Minister Jose Luis Manzano and Presidential Chief-of-Staff Eduardo Bauza.

Meanwhile, former national Deputy Julio Romero publicly described Presidential Undersecretary Carlos Corach as "a son of a b..." and "a piece of s...."

The argument, or "shouting match," between the leader from Corrientes province and the government official was carried out in front of the press last night.

The president downplayed the incident stating that "this kind of thing happens even in the best of families."

According to sources, the tussle began after Romero's wife, Emma Tacta, criticized Corach for his involvement in the federal intervention of Corrientes province.

Manzano Continues Dialogue With Politicians

PY2109014491 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 20 Sep 91 p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN)—Interior Minister Jose Luis Manzano and Democratic Centre Union (UCeDe) veteran leader Alvaro Alsogaray met yesterday in the latter's house to continue the government's political dialogue with leading politicians.

The dialogue started on Tuesday [17 September] when Manzano and Presidential Chief-of-Staff Eduardo Bauza discussed the national situation after the Sunday 8 polls with former President and Radical Party chairman Raul Alfonsin.

The issues Manzano and Alsogaray agreed would be part of the talks are the pensions system, relations between the federal government and the provinces, energy problems and the privatizations scheme, among others.

Although Alsogaray explained that the talks were not official, UCeDe chairman Federico Clerici complained that a political discussion between the government and his party should have included him. "This meeting was agreed beforehand and in the beginning it was not designed to be linked to the current round of political dialogue," Alsogaray said.

Anyway, Manzano pointed out after the meeting that on Monday he will meet Clerici at Congress.

The UCeDe leader proposed a political accord to support "the economic reform that the government is carrying out and cooperate in having the necessary laws approved for the reform to succeed.

"That is the key point in the debate," Alsogaray said, "because President Carlos Menem's reform is a profound transformation in the economic, social, legal and political aspects of Argentine life and it will be as important as perestroika in the Soviet Union."

In related news, Alfonsin warned the government "not to transform political dialogue into a mere contract of support for current policies" of the Justicialist administration.

"Because of its democratic principles, the Radical Party will always be ready for these talks, but we would not like them to become more rhetorical than substantial," the ex-head of state said.

In an article published yesterday in the daily La Nacion, Alfonsin said he was sceptical as to the talks bringing about structural changes in most areas of government, and considered the possibility that "after their victory in the recent elections the government might try to define the contents and limits of the dialogue by itself, but the results of the polls do not allow the government to take these decisions without consulting the main opposition parties."

The Radical national committee which met last night decided to postpone an analysis of their defeat at the Sunday 8 polls for after the coming elections in seven provinces on October 27.

Meanwhile, a group of Radical deputies issued a document expressing the party's view against incorporating the death sentence for certain crimes into the criminal code.

Deputy Dominguez Surprised by Orsi's Resignation

PY2209223691 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 22 Sep 91 p 4

[Text] Justicialist Deputy Jorge Dominguez, Yacyreta's new Argentine executive director, yesterday said he was surprised to find out that former Planning Secretary Vittorio Orsi resigned because of his appointment.

In a letter addressed to President Carlos Menem, Orsi had pointed out that he disagreed with the government's gas and electricity privatization policies, but appointing Dominguez to head the bilateral Yacyreta project was the last straw.

Yacyreta is a company owned by Argentines and Paraguayans which is in charge of building the binational hydroelectric dam.

Orsi lobbied for former Energy Undersecretary and current Federal Trustee in Catamarca Luis Prol to head the delicate negotiations with the Paraguayan Government on behalf of Yacyreta-Argentina.

"I recommended Prol to head the project in order to form a homogeneous working group," Orsi said.

During a cabinet meeting where Orsi and Dominguez were present, ideological differences between the two surfaced, but it wasn't enough to cause his resignation, Dominguez said.

"Orsi wanted to stop the construction project if problems emerged, where I said it was more important to finish the project," Dominguez said.

When Orsi became Planning Secretary sevens month ago, there was friction with the then newly appointed Economy Minister Domingo Cavallo. However, Orsi was appointed to the post after former Economy Minister Antonio Erman Gonzalez pushed for his nomination.

Ministry Reports $1.141 Million Trade Surplus

PY2009001891 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 19 Sep 91 p 5

[From the "Business World" column]

[Text] (NA)—The trade surplus for the third quarter of the year was 1,141 million dollars, the Economy Ministry announced yesterday. This figure is 56 percent below the surplus achieved in the same period last year.

Exports totalled 3,291 million dollars, whereas imports were 2,150 million, the Economy Ministry reported. Imports were 893 million dollars in the same period last year.

Brazil

Collor Addresses UN General Assembly

PY2409000291 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1417 GMT 23 Sep 91

[Speech by President Fernando Collor de Mello at the opening of the UN General Assembly in New York—live; monitored in progress]

...Perez de Cuellar. I want to pay just homage to his balanced judgment and commitment at the head of this organization for the past 10 years.

Mr. Secretary General, we are privileged to live in an era when individual freedoms and rights, pluralism, respect for the opinion of the majority, protection of minorities, and free economic initiative are consolidating. These are victories by a world tired of conflicts and arbitrariness. These victories stress a basic concept: The collective opinion of the people sooner or later will prevail over the ambition of groups who want to maintain privileges.

We want to begin a new historic cycle where the totalitarian subjugation of peoples and countries is no longer viable, and where democracy, freedom, development, and peace are truly universal values.

Mr. Secretary General, I am addressing the UN General Assembly [UNGA] as the representative of 150 million Brazilians and as the elected leader of one of the largest democracies in the world.

I have come to join the celebration of good news. I have come to share the joys and the concerns. I have come to celebrate and to call the world's attention to grave problems. We have in front of us the challenge of reordering the world and establishing a peace that does not depend on the constant threat of war. The ideological and strategic reasons behind world conflicts are, happily, obsolete and worn out.

There are other tensions that need to be overcome. We know the path to prosperity and to a better distribution of wealth. Parochial interests, however, keep the large breach open. This breach continues to widen in front of our eyes. It is as if we walked simultaneously for reconciliation in freedom and for separation in inequality.

Liberal ideals have triumphed, and we have to strive to see them established in a coherent, broad, and innovative manner. This is an observation I make from the viewpoint of a country that chose a liberal program with a clear social meaning, which we call social liberalism. This observation comes from a society that for the past 18 months has made great efforts to implement the ideals of social liberalism. This liberal doctrine values individual freedoms. In Brazil, these freedoms will be consolidated only after the material situation of the majority of Brazilians is improved. Today is a good time for liberalism to incorporate, at the international level, the social conscience it has gained at the national level.

The liberal doctrine supports market freedom, but it cannot survive without mechanisms hindering distortions or violations of some of its most basic rules, such as current discriminatory and protectionist policies. This means that the international community will have to give priority attention to solving development problems. This means that market instruments must be complemented with regulations to correct serious imbalances, the perpetuation of which endanger coexistence. No one can feel safe from the consequences of a nuclear war; no one will live in peace and security as long as the number of poor and destitute people increases so dramatically.

I will not mention any of the statistics or indexes—many of which were compiled by this organization—that show with alarming clarity that developing countries are worse off today than a decade ago.

We are close to developing a global consensus on democratic values. We must now implement democracy's ethical content. Democratic thinking holds individuals at the center, participating and politically responsible individuals who can define the future of their societies. Governments are democratic when they work for the benefit of individuals. They fulfill their goals when they can offer effective conditions for justice and well-being to all citizens.

The democratic conscience must be universal because it is based on the supreme principle of equal rights and opportunities for all people. We cannot accept conditioned democracies under any pretext. In this context, it is absurd to see that three-quarters of all human beings live in deplorable poverty and, in some cases, inhumane conditions.

If political oppression offends the democratic conscience, economic underdevelopment must also offend it. The offense must be even greater when the victims of hunger and misery are children and young people. In them we see indignation about present conditions and a lack of hope for a better future. Last year, here in New York, the world summit on children widely agreed that the issue had to be discussed at the highest level, with the utmost determination. The international community must give shape to its commitment, however, by implementing concrete programs. In Brazil, the government is trying to mobilize society to give the well-being of children top national priority. Several measures were implemented to that end, such as the creation of a minister [as heard] for children to coordinate efforts in that area and the launching of a program—which is already in operation—to build several hundred integrated centers to take children off the streets and give

them an education, food, medical care, and cultural and athletic encouragement. We are trying to maximize our scarce resources.

Mr. Secretary General, the international community has three great challenges before it: the economic challenge of development; the political challenge of achieving peace; and the ethical challenge of ensuring a dignified life for all citizens. These challenges cannot be defeated separately. They must be confronted collectively and simultaneously. They are challenges that must be faced democratically, with everyone's participation. They are challenges to our capacity to elevate world solidarity to the first level of international relations.

Only development can guarantee our democratic consolidation. It is an essential component of peace. Inequality creates fertile ground for misunderstandings and conflicts. The world is seeking universal values, but little progress is achieved in the direction of a model and tempo for universal development. We are responsible for building a truly democratic, balanced international society.

In a democracy citizens respect the law because they feel they were legitimately represented at its drafting. The same principle must be valid for the coexistence of states. Participation, not imposition, is the greatest encouragement for legal behavior. That is why the UNGA, the center of world opinion, where citizens of all parts of the world are effectively represented, is the ideal forum for working for a better world, a more prosperous, just, and peaceful world.

The definite achievement of peace demands more open decision processes to ensure broader participation and to allow countries to make deeper, broader commitments. The natural path to face the great challenges on our agenda is that of cooperation through the support of countries for legitimately agreed upon universal rules of implementation. Here we can forge the basis of true cooperation. Pluralism should be the result of tolerance; consensus should be the result of understanding, and synthesis should be the result of different opinions always expressed in freedom. The UNGA cannot allow its legitimate prerogatives to be curtailed because it is increasingly becoming a symbol that will lead to the global victory of democracy.

Mr. Secretary General, the Persian Gulf war has shown us an active United Nations. We rely on its capability to influence the development of events and to solve tensions in the international scene. Peace in the world absolutely must begin in the Middle East. Our Lebanese brothers are organizing themselves to reconstruct their country based on a great project: a united, free, prosperous, and peaceful Lebanon. Now it is the turn of Arabs and Israelis. The great dream of a region where everyone can live in peace within internationally recognized borders must also be in keeping with the reality of respect for the rights of the Palestine people and the calming of passions with regard to Israel.

Brazil firmly supports the initiative for a Middle East peace conference with the participation of all interested parties and aimed at full implementation of the pertinent UN resolutions. We hope everyone will demonstrate the necessary flexibility to remove the physical and emotional obstacles to achievement of a fair, lasting peace in the region. Within this context we believe that the biased positions that have nourished distrust among the parties should be reconsidered.

Mr. Secretary General, delegates, ladies and gentlemen: Besides the political and economic challenges, the United Nations must face the ethical challenge of which I spoke. It is necessary to conceive more creative and agreed upon approaches and action instruments for the fields of environment, development, human rights, world population, and the situation of women and children. In this term of sessions, which will conclude with the 50th anniversary of the United Nations Organization, we must establish the guidelines for international coexistence in the 21st century.

The UN Conference on Environment and Development [UNCED]—that is, the Rio-92 conference—is the first of the great universal conferences that will be held in coming years. This conference has an unavoidable commitment to future generations since they will be the ones who benefit from our work, the main objective of which is to improve people's quality of life.

Long-lasting solutions to overall problems call for contributions from the entire international community in direct relation to each country's responsibility for generating and dealing with these problems and to each country's economic and technological capacity to overcome them.

The months preceding the UNCED will require an intense consultation process. Brazil intends to make the most of the opportunities this process will offer for holding dialogues, and hopes to find open, determined interlocutors. Perhaps the most unique characteristic of a conference on environment and development is that it allows debates as broad as the participants may desire and as profound as the political disposition of the participants allows.

We believe the topics and decisions to be reached during the Rio- 92 conference must be discussed in a free, unbiased atmosphere. During this conference, we will discuss the adoption of economic policies in developed and developing countries that have proven to be very effective in eradicating poverty and correcting production and consumption standards that are entirely unendurable. The transfer of environmentally sound technology calls for innovative treatment of the intellectual property issue in order to create an administration that effectively favors access for developing countries to the achievements of industrialized countries.

The Rio-92 conference must not be used as an arena for demands and recriminations. It must favor the birth of

mature, feasible proposals. The conference must ultimately meet our general interest in the survival of mankind and the planet.

I realize that development has lost ground on the international agenda, and I am afraid that, in view of other aspects of daily international events, environment may also lose ground. It is understandable that the dramatic events of the last two years absorbed most of the international attention, but we must realize that the political task of reconstructing peace cannot be fulfilled in a void; it calls for economic development, which calls for environmental models that are sustainable. Our planet cannot be environmentally healthy if the world is socially unfair. The political, economic, and ethical dimensions converge in the environment issue because the challenges of peace, development, and an improved standard of living for all human beings converge, ultimately, in this issue. This is why we must meet at the Rio-92 conference.

I thus ratify my invitation to all heads of state, from all parts of our planet. May you all be present at the Rio-92 conference. Your participation will ensure a highly political force for the decisions to be adopted there. Brazil waits for all of you with open arms.

Mr. Secretary General, my country has been fighting to ensure the position it deserves in the international scenario. We know that to achieve this, we must count on our own efforts above all.

It is our duty to put our domestic situation in order, to resolve our problems among ourselves, and to persevere in the correct direction. There is no other way for us to achieve progress, harmony, and social welfare.

This is the role we want to play in the process of international decisions: We are not asking anything from the world that we are not willing to give. We are not proposing anything that we are not willing to do.

Brazil as a country is too complex to be handled with standardized formulas. There are no magic formulas nor economic miracles.

We are joining the world's nations with an open spirit, a futuristic view, and generosity. This is the attitude we expect in return. We are perfectly aware that respectability is subject to responsibility.

Throughout our history, we have cultivated and practiced a consistent, responsible international conduct, a conduct faithful to the rules and principles of coexistence among nations. The world bears witness to this tradition.

Last year, at this same forum, I reported my government's decision not to carry out any nuclear explosions, even one for peaceful purposes—as if this were possible.

On 18 July 1991, in Guadalajara, Mexico, we, Brazil and Argentina, signed an agreement on the peaceful use of nuclear energy. This agreement has great historic significance for our countries and represents evidence that it is possible to achieve nuclear security through nuclear cooperation.

The safeguard agreement that we, Brazil and Argentina, will sign with the International Atomic Energy Agency will supply all the information necessary to verify our commitment to the peaceful use of nuclear energy and will preserve the technological achievements in mastery of the atomic cycle that we arduously reached.

Furthermore, a month ago we signed the Mendoza Agreement with Argentina and Chile, formalizing our mutual rejection of chemical and biological weapons.

We are aware of the example we have just set for destruction of weapons of mass destruction and we hope an agreement in this regard will also be achieved on the global level in the near future.

Brazil understands that the aforementioned agreements comprise a full and sufficient guarantee of the peaceful purposes of our nuclear program and our repudiation of weapons of mass destruction.

The flow of goods, services, and sensitive technological knowledge is vital today. We must find formulas to reconcile two basic interests: Preventing the possibility that these technologies will be used to develop weapons of mass destruction and keeping open the channels to obtain these technologies for peaceful uses. This is a basic requirement for the modernization and technological training of countries like Brazil.

Mr. Secretary General: It is easy to hail the transformations that have already taken place and extol the possibility of constructing a new world. It is painful, however, to talk about the many obstacles that are still restricting this hope.

Conspicuous among these obstacles are the enduring, acute foreign debt problem (?that is harming) the scarce capital of developing countries, arbitrary restrictions, technology transfer, and disrespect for market rules through protectionist policies, particularly those maintained by the most industrialized nations.

The paths toward an international structure that will guarantee peace and favor development are complex and are not yet defined. There is a consensus on the objectives and, probably, also on the means to be used to achieve these objectives. There is, however, still great resistance to the actual changes. The significant steps taken in the ideological and strategic fields must be accompanied by boldless steps in the confidence and cooperation fields.

In the political spectrum, democracy must create space for new decision-making processes to prevail in the international arena. Safety should be a truly collective achievement, imposed by the force of law and not by the use of weapons.

In the economic spectrum, if we abandon the easy, simplistic dreams of radical changes in the world economy and if we are aware that the great changes start with the difficult task of internal reorganization of the national structure, we cannot relinquish realistic, sensitive proposals for international cooperation.

We are determined to strive for the success of the GATT and the Uruguay Round because we believe the philosophy of an open door and a free trade policy should be based on a solid equilibrium.

Within the overall range of values, there is a consensus that the defense of human rights is a priority issue and that we must strive for their full realization in the political, economic, and social fields. This should be international solidarity's great goal.

Mr. Secretary General: Brazil's policy only seeks to alert, to prevent, to propose, and, above all, to cooperate. The international community's stability and safety are definitely threatened by the growing imbalance between developed and developing countries. This threat will continue to grow if effective support is not given to the consolidation of democracy and development. A solid, consensual, and defined platform on the problem of growth should be created at the international level, a platform that can guide and encourage negotiations on specific subjects related to exchange between nations at the most varied levels of economic development.

On the American Continent, the Americas Initiative, also known as the Bush Plan, is the first sign of a desire for understanding. In this same spirit, toward a true integration of the continent, Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay have signed an agreement creating the Common Market of the South, Mercosur, which was already coordinated with the Americas Initiative through the Rose Garden agreement signed in Washington this year.

In order to materialize the hopes they have brought to the people of the region, the priority goal of these two initiatives should be the search for solutions to the great social problems that still plague us.

This political, economic, and ethical undertaking cannot be regarded as the political claim of one country or of a group of countries; it represents a flag that must be adopted by all states and governments. We are about to celebrate the universal, definite victory of the revolution for democracy and freedom. We still have to complete it with the revolution for social justice and solidarity. May God help us. Thank you very much. [applause]

Oil Workers Return to Work in Most States

PY2409035291 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1600 GMT 23 Sep 91

[Excerpt] The oil workers ended their strike. They returned to work today in most states. In Sao Paulo, even with the end of the strike, the kitchen gas supply will return to normal by 26 September at the earliest. In Rio de Janeiro, the Duque de Caxias refinery—the second largest in the country—will need at least 24 hours to return to full capacity. [passage omitted]

Chile

Mexican President Discusses Free Trade Accord

PY2309153691 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 2014 GMT 22 Sep 91

[Interview with Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari by reporter Jacobo Zabludovsky at La Moneda Palace in Santiago, Chile, on 22 September—recorded]

[Zabludovsky] Mr. President, I have just interviewed Chilean President Patricio Aylwin. Let me start by mentioning the comment I made to Aylwin at the conclusion of the interview. I said that while I was watching the signing of the free trade treaty a few minutes ago, I recalled the great affinity between the artists, writers, and philosophers of Mexico and Chile, and the fact that through the years Chilean sailors came to southern Mexico where they left their music. We continue to sing Chilean songs in some places of Guerrero. Therefore, it is nothing new that Chile and Mexico are the first Latin American countries to sign a free trade agreement.

[Salinas] It is fortunate that this agreement was signed by two friendly countries like Mexico and Chile. But there are circumstances that prompted it. This type of treaty was a Latin American dream for many years. A great deal was said about it, many speeches but little progress was made. Now we have put aside rhetoric and gone ahead with concrete actions. The treaty was signed because the two governments had the political will to do so. The two governments realized that there are interests more important than private interests. There was also an affinity on the economic structure of the two countries and a consensus among the labor and business sectors that it would be beneficial for both countries to sign this treaty. But the important factor is that we have signed a free trade agreement, the first signed by Mexico, the first in Latin America, and we do so to reaffirm our sovereignty, emphasizing our essential values—that is, we have taken this step and at the same time we have strengthen what is ours, the essence of being Mexican, and that of being Latin American.

[Zabludovsky] Mr. President, Mexico and Chile grow similar fruits and extract similar minerals. Are they not in some way in competition? How can this free trade agreement be prevented from destabilizing some parts of the Mexican economy?

[Salinas] Through two aspects. First, the two countries complement each other. For example, in the case of fruits: Here in Chile the seasons are opposite to those in our country. When it is summer in Mexico it is winter in Chile. Thus, we can complement each other in the

production of many consumer goods. Second, in some sectors where there may be some competition there will be a period of transition. In other words, a period for the productive sectors to modernize and to be more efficient to compete better. This is why, in our relation with Chile and with the rest of the world, we have to become more efficient and competitive.

[Zabludovsky] President Aylwin said that Chile hopes to sign a free trade agreement with the United States after the signing of the treaty with Mexico. Does the treaty signed today have any relationship with that announcement?

[Salinas] It follows the spirit of the free trade agreement, in which tariffs are reduced, and products are exchanged with greater freedom. This is important in that we are doing it with Chile and we want to do it with the United States and Canada. We are also promoting this type of treaty with Central America and specific dates have already been established. There are other Latin American countries with which we are negotiating. We are diversifying our commercial relations with Latin America, North America, Europe, and, of course, with the Pacific Basin countries. Therefore, this is a strategy of diversification which seeks a better standard of living for Mexicans.

[Zabludovsky] Mr. President, over a period of less than two years, we have witnessed the fall of half the countries of the world which closed their doors to the free market policy.

Over the same period, we also witnessed the opening of these previously closed systems to the potentials of democracy and a free economy. Has this somehow caused the signing of this agreement with Chile to be more swift and more fluid?

[Salinas] These external circumstances have undoubtedly had a great influence, but the important and swift infrastructural changes implemented in the Chilean and Mexican economies also influenced the process. We can also say, Jacobo, that the world is changing fast and that the world is in a hurry to implement changes. If we do not keep up with this pace—wisely and carefully—we risk being left behind. If we allow this to occur, Mexico would not have the means to resume growth, to create more jobs, or to offer more well-being to its people. We are simply keeping up with the current pace. We are doing it, however, in accordance with our principles and fair values. We are doing it through the required national dialogue and accord, which are indispensable.

I am very pleased to see that, in Mexico, we are taking pioneer and innovative steps that will allow us to participate in the great changes occurring in the world.

[Zabludovsky] Mr. President, when we talk about state activities such as signing and discussing treaties, we sometimes fail to sufficiently emphasize how these treaties will favor the common people, peasants, workers, businessmen, and Mexican middle class. How will they benefit from such treaties?

[Salinas] They will benefit directly from this treaty. As a consequence of this treaty, Mexico will have to produce more to be able to sell to a market that is being opened to us without restrictions. We will naturally have to produce better because the market that is being opened calls for reciprocity and their products will be sold in our market. Therefore, some Mexican productive sectors in the interior of the country and in the towns will have more opportunities, will increase production, and offer better jobs and better salaries.

I insist, however, that the key to obtaining better results from this treaty is to work more effectively and to be more competitive.

[Zabludovsky] Mr. President, will Mexico sign similar treaties with other Latin American countries?

[Salinas] We are discussing the issue with Colombia and Venezuela, but I would say that we will probably sign similar treaties with Central American countries first. This will happen mainly because we are fundamentally interested in the economic recovery of this region, which is so close to our own country, and with which we share common borders and a great cultural and historic affinity.

[Zabludovsky] One last question Mr. President. In the next few minutes you will end this tour of Latin America, which included Chile and Belize. Could you please comment on these two visits?

[Salinas] Through these two visits and their concrete results, we are confirming Mexico's profound Latin Americanist vocation. This vocation is a result of our common culture and has greatly influenced our artistic work and literature, but not our economy. As a result, our trade and productive ties are very weak.

Nonetheless, we are now establishing broader ties and this will make us a stronger nation. We will be very pleased to ratify, as Mexicans, our clear Latin Americanist vocation and, simultaneously, our international vocation. This is why we will continue to implement similar policies with the Northern, Western, and Eastern countries, as we have just implemented with the Southern countries.

[Zabludovsky] Thank you very much Mr. President. We are honored to have your attention and time and we thank you for allowing us to accompany you on this tour.

Pinochet Discusses Reconciliation, Retirement

PY2109220091 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 9 Sep 91 pp 4, 5

[Interview with Army Commander in Chief General Augusto Pinochet by "Teletrece" reporters Monica

Cerda, Pablo Honorato, and Claudio Sanchez, on a Channel 13 television news program on 8 September—place not given]

[Excerpts) [Teletrece] To what extent is it true that some people try to corner you and that you consequently react in a way people do not like?

[Pinochet] Look, I think that this is an exaggeration because the Army commander does not feel cornered to begin with.

Second, every time I say something it is for some reason. You just said that my speech at the Union Club last year provoked many reactions. That is what I wanted. A few days before I met with a group of officers and I said: "Gentlemen, we are facing a campaign designed to destroy the Army. People do not understand this. We must attract the public's attention." I then mentioned this statement in my speech at the Union Club and it caused reactions. In the long term, the reactions were favorable for the Army because the campaign ceased. There were people publishing articles saying that this and that should be done in the Army; that it should be reduced in size; that it should be changed and several other factors that in reality, instead of helping us, harmed us.

Now, throughout the whole year people have spoken of reconciliation. I feel reconciled already, so I say: OK, give signals of reconciliation.

As I was leaving the Military School after giving a lecture on our profession, demonstrating our principles and the reason for the Army's existence, I was met by a group of journalists that asked me many questions. I never despised anyone, and I respect the journalistic profession, but questions in a certain style deserve answers in the same style.

[Teletrece] But do you think that your answer helped national reconciliation?

[Pinochet] Do you think that unearthing graves helps national reconciliation? [passage omitted]

[Teletrece] Will you continue commemorating 11 September? [anniversary date of Pinochet's military coup in 1973]

[Pinochet] I continue commemorating the 11th of September.

[Teletrece] How many more 11 Septembers will you commemorate as Army commander?

[Pinochet] I do not know. I have not thought about it. [passage omitted]

[Teletrece] People ask themselves how many more years will the Army commander commemorate 11 September in his post. What are the conditions you think are necessary for you to step down from your post as commander?

[Pinochet] I have not thought about it yet.

[Teletrece] You really have not thought about it?

[Pinochet] I have not thought about it yet.

[Teletrece] What are the conditions you require so that you can leave your post in peace?

[Pinochet] I am considering it, and if I tell you it will be made public.

[Teletrece] But you could leave your post as commander and choose another power alternative like running for election as a candidate.

[Pinochet] By God! How can you think that after 18 years I can think of candidacies? The time comes when one thinks of going to new things.

[Teletrece] Can't you imagine yourself as a candidate again?

[Pinochet] I cannot imagine myself as a candidate. I have not dreamed of candidacies. [passage omitted]

[Teletrece] How are your relations with Defense Minister Patricio Rojas?

[Pinochet] Normal. I respect him; he respects me.

[Teletrece] Do you like each other?

[Pinochet] I do not know what it is to like another man. [laughter] [passage omitted]

[Teletrece] And what about President Aylwin?

[Pinochet] President Aylwin is the chief of state. I respect him. Just like I liked people to respect me when I was president, I respect him in the same manner.

Krauss Comments on Generals' Arrrest

PY2409034791 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 23 Sep 91

[Report by Maria Angelica Rodriguez from La Moneda Palace]

[Text] Interior Minister Enrique Krauss stated that the arrest of retired General Manuel Contreras and of Brigadier Pedro Espinoza is by no means a disruptive element in government/Army relations. What is under investigation is a highly serious, significant criminal act, he said. He added that the Investigative Police informed him that, in compliance with a warrant issued by Judge Adolfo Banados, agents from that department detained the two officers, both of whom are involved in the Letelier case.

[Begin Krauss recording] Well, it is a police operation carried out by the Investigative Police Department, which comes under the courts, in a case that is highly significant and known to all. The government was always willing to contribute to solving this crime. We suppose

the actions ordered by the judge seek to determine those responsible for the crime. [end recording]

Krauss added that in accordance with the provisions of Article 137 of the Code of Military Justice and of Article 434 of the Penal Code, the detainees were placed under jurisdiction of the Santiago Garrison General Command.

Furthermore, the interior minister reaffirmed the absolute disposition of the government and police organizations to cooperate in solving this crime, which severely shook our country and the whole world 15 years ago.

Retired General Manuel Contreras was in custody at the Military Hospital since 2300 last night. He was detained by the orders of Judge Adolfo Banados, who is hearing the case of [false] passports and the murder of Orlando Letelier. Reporter Hugo Vergara will give us further details on this:

[Begin recording] There is absolute secrecy at the Military Hospital where retired General Manuel Contreras is being held since 2300 last night. According to authorities, Contreras arrived at approximately 2?00 after talking to Investigative Police agents who were complying with the arrest order issued by Judge Adolfo Banados, who is hearing the so-called Letelier case.

In addition, Contreras was placed in custody of the Pension Department of the Military Hospital and is being held under strict control. No official source has referred to this matter. An assistant of Manuel Contreras arrived at the hospital, however, and left a telephone so that the general can remain in continuous contact with those who work for him. There are neither confirmations nor denials that Brigadier Pedro Espinoza is under arrest at the Army Telecommunications Department. He is involved in the same case and an arrest warrant was reportedly issued for him. [end recording]

General Accuses CIA

PY2409131091 Santiago Radio Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 24 Sep 91

[Excerpts] The headline of an article on the second page of LA NACION newspaper this morning reads: "This Is How They Were Arrested." It describes the arrest of General Manuel Contreras, retired, and Brigadier Pedro Espinoza.

The article reads: Here they are, they are coming to get you. At the other end of the telephone, Gen. Contreras probably felt uneasy, but not too much, because just a few minutes later he commented while on board the Investigative Police plane that he knew sooner or later he would be arrested. [passage omitted]

The former National Intelligence Directorate chief was very talkative and friendly toward the policemen who escorted him. He told them he was sure that Judge Banados would order his arrest, but he was calm because no one will be able to prove anything against him. "The guilty parties are in the United States; they are in the CIA. I am innocent", Contreras said. According to the policemen who accompanied him on the trip, Contreras behaved like a gentleman. [passage omitted]

Colombia

Jaramillo Departs for UN General Assembly

PA2309133891 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 0100 GMT 22 Sep 91

[Report by Azucena Lievano]

[Text] Foreign Minister Luis Fernando Jaramillo Correa left on 21 September for New York to attend the 46th UN General Assembly that will meet next week.

Prior to leaving, the foreign minister said the government will increase its efforts on behalf of the human rights of Colombian prisoners abroad. He reiterated the initiative to create a commission to establish the needs of Colombians who are in U.S., Mexican, and Venezuelan prisons.

[Begin recording] [Jaramillo] All Colombian consuls were instructed to remain alert to the problems of Colombian prisoners abroad. We met twice with all consuls in the United States and discussed this topic.

[Lievano] Are you going to look into that issue in the United States?

[Jaramillo] If there is an opportunity to talk with some U.S. authorities, I will probably do that. [end recording]

The foreign minister announced that on 25 September he will speak on behalf of the Colombian Government at the United Nations. The following are topics to be discussed at the General Assembly:

[Begin Jaramillo recording] The new international order and how the new balance of power is being formed in the world; the issue of narcotics trafficking, and how this problem is becoming more international all the time; the human rights issue, which is of utmost importance in the world. [end recording]

The foreign minister will return to the country late next week and will then travel to Venezuela where Presidents Borja and Gaviria will meet to discuss border integration.

Supreme Court Judge Shot While Attending Mass

PA2209034791 Paris AFP in Spanish 1549 GMT 21 Sep 91

[Text] Cali, Colombia, 21 Sep (AFP)—Supreme Court Magistrate Fabiola Borrero de Campo was shot today while attending a religious ceremony honoring her husband who was killed last year. The incident took place today in Cali, located in the southwestern part of Colombia.

Jose Bernardo Gomez, priest of the Santa Filomena Parish where the incident took place, stated that Magistrate de Campo was shot by a man while she was kneeling after receiving holy communion. The gunman managed to escape amid the confusion and shock of those attending the religious ceremony.

According to Dr. Jorge Asis, who is treating Magistrate de Campo at the Occidente Clinic where she was taken after the shooting, the bullet entered her right eye and exited through the back of her head. He added that her condition is stable.

The reasons for the attempt against the magistrate are still unknown. In the meantime, Cali Archbishop Monsignor Pedro Rubiano said that the church will be closed for a few days because it was "violated."

Magistrate de Campo's husband, Oscar Campo, was murdered a year ago on a street in northern Cali.

President Orders Investigation of Accident

PA2409010591 Santa Fe de Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 18 Sep 91 p 8a

[Presidential decree issued in Santa Fe de Bogota; date not given]

[Text] The president of the Republic of Colombia, exercising his constitutional and legal powers, particularly those bestowed upon him by Article 14 of Decree 1680 of 1991 and Article 1 of Decree Law 1050 of 1968, states:

On 16 September, the Colombian Air Force FAC 003 helicopter had an accident in which all of its occupants died. The national government must determine the technical and administrative circumstances surrounding this accident, for which purpose the establishment of a commission is necessary.

Decrees:

Article 1. The establishment of an administrative commission to investigate the accident involving Colombian Air Force FAC 003, which occurred on 16 September 1991 in Valle del Cauca Department, that will consist of:

The presidential security secretary, who will preside over it,
a representative of the Civil Aeronautics Administrative Department,
a representative of the Colombian Association of Helicopter Operators, and
a representative of the Colombian Association of Civil Aviators.

Article 2. The commission must submit to the president of the Republic a report on the possible administrative and technical causes and circumstances surrounding the FAC 003 helicopter accident that occurred on 16 September 1991 in Valle del Cauca Department.

The commission will cease to operate as soon as this report is submitted.

Article 3. Public institutions will offer the assistance needed by the commission in a preferential and direct manner and adopt the appropriate measures for that purpose.

The commission may request the assistance it requires to fulfill its duty from local or foreign private institutions.

Article 4. The administrative commission created by this decree will be under the Administrative Department of the Presidency of the Republic, which will offer the technical and administrative support needed by the commission.

Peru

President Fujimori Discusses U.S. Visit

PA2409033191 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 23 Sep 91

["Exclusive" interview with President Alberto Fujimori by Panamericana Television Network Director Gonzalo Rojas in Lima on 22 September—recorded]

[Rojas] I would like to ask you for a report on the positive, negative, pleasant, and unpleasant aspects of your trip to Washington. I know you have returned in a very optimistic mood, and we want to hear everything about your trip.

[Fujimori] It is a pleasure for me to give you a report. I want to thank you for this opportunity. It was a very tiring trip but I was able to rest yesterday. There were very positive results. I reported yesterday during the "24-Hours Program" on the excellent relations with President Bush.

[Rojas] I believe your trip was very successful.

[Fujimori] Yes, it was successful. Above all, it was very productive. We also met with Congress, and this is very important. There was some misinformation that most likely came from Peru. We can talk about this later. The U.S. media...

[Rojas, interrupting] Why not talk about it now?

[Fujimori] Because we might get distracted from the issue. The WASHINGTON POST published an excellent editorial praising our antinarcotics strategy. The United States has great interest in this issue. Overall, I would say the trip was excellent, except for a small problem with one of the four airplane engines when we landed in Orlando.

[Rojas] Why did the plane land in Orlando?

[Fujimori] The truth is that no one realized at the time that one of the engines had a problem. We landed in Orlando because it was programmed for the official

delegation to stop there. It is protocol for the U.S. presidential plane to pick up the invited president and fly him to Washington. One does not make a direct flight to Washington. We had to be at an entry airport and from there....

[Rojas, interrupting] Why did you travel with your family?

[Fujimori] That is a very important point. It is not because the children wanted to miss school...

[Rojas, interrupting] Or because they wanted to go to Disney World?

[Fujimori] No, it was not because they wanted to go to Disney World. I believe we left behind a very good image in the United States and this is important. I think we made a very good impression on President Bush, and this is also very important. You know that President Bush holds family union in high esteem. He specifically referred to that at the end of our meeting. He said that family union is much better in Latin America than in the industrialized nations. He was actually very pleased with the visit by the entire family. He even posed for pictures with each one of the children and with the entire family. Of course, Barbara was also very pleased.

[Rojas] Mr. President, why did you speak in English when it is obvious that it is not our native language and we do not speak it as well as we speak Spanish?

[Fujimori] Inasmuch as you have asked me about Disney World... [pauses] Before going on such an important trip, one must prepare an entire strategy. Each individual meeting with congressmen, with the president, with committee members, and with the press requires a duly prepared agenda. By the way, the visit to Disney World also enabled me to get used to the English language and the U.S. environment. I spoke in English during the news conference at the National Press Club because I wanted to reach the U.S. people. As you well know, public opinion is very important in democratic countries. Although it is true that one can learn about strategy from other government officials, one cannot learn about public opinion in that manner.

[Rojas] Is the result different when you speak in English?

[Fujimori] Of course. I think the listeners have a better feeling. The news conference was carried by a network with a large audience, or a high rating, as they say.

[Rojas] Is it true that UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar mediated on behalf of Peru at the Paris Club?

[Fujimori] He has mediated on several occasions, and that is why I went to thank him personally.

[Rojas] The government minister was negotiating for 20 hours, and no agreement was reached. Then, suddenly, one was reached.

[Fujimori] Actually, we had an overall strategy. Obviously there had been negotiations before reaching this point. Therefore, it cannot be said that an agreement was reached in a few hours, particularly because Peru achieved a very important agreement. The UN secretary general's role was very important. The achievements at the Paris Club are the result of the efforts, not of the president of the republic or any one person, but of the Peruvian people. The Paris Club appreciated the seriousness of our program that is supported by all Peruvians. This was a great advantage.

[Rojas] Mr. President, the Peruvian people made great sacrifices this year in order to accept your program. It has been very difficult.

[Fujimori, interrupting] Yes, but after all the destruction we have encountered, as if there had been a devastating war, I think it was necessary and well worth the effort. Fortunately, the people understood it well and accepted it in a stoic manner. The results will be evident soon, but now the sacrifices are being felt. I want to share something with all the Peruvian people. In a few years, Peru will be totally different. This country will run as it should. It will be a strong country, and everyone will have all kinds of opportunities.

[Rojas] Let us hope so, Mr. President. That is something that all governments want. However, on the plane you said that...

[Fujimori, interrupting] Yes, yes, let us hope we will never again have this experience.

[Rojas] You said this policy of breaking with the international organizations was a corrupt one. I recall that when President Garcia announced reducing debt payments to 10 percent, practically everyone in the country agreed. What happened to the country at that time?

[Fujimori] Perhaps the demagogic speech confused the people. Actually, it was a deception. We did not pay less than 10 percent; we actually paid much more. With our current strategy, we will end up paying a much lower percentage. The exports...

[Rojas, interrupting] You mean less than 10 percent?

[Fujimori] I do not know, but much less than the previous government paid. However, it is not just a matter of the percentages that are paid. We are also interested in how much enters the country. We are interested in how much enters the country in credits and donations. That is going to be much more than any of the previous governments. We are going to see improvements that the people will notice: better highways, potable water and sewers for everyone, electricity, land irrigation programs, schools, and so on.

[Rojas] That sounds like heavenly music, as you would say, to our listeners. Let us hope...

[Fujimori, interrupting] That is going to be a fact. It will not only be evident in the direct investment works

through the development organizations and the cooperating countries, but also through the employment it will generate and the national investment it will stimulate. In addition, because it creates an atmosphere of confidence; there will be foreign investment.

[Rojas] That was one of the topics that you discussed over there, but you also discussed drug trafficking. Is that right, Mr. President? Concerning the issue of drug trafficking, much progress was made and it was said that effective measures were going to be adopted. The path for the money being withheld by Congress was practically paved. What are these effective measures and when will they be issued? What can you tell us about that?

[Fujimori] Currently, U.S. cooperation is still based on previous terms. In other words, we do not have the adequate amount for the agreement we recently signed. We are negotiating that right now. We have a target of six months to complete it. The most important thing is that we have the support of President Bush and his entire team. Some problems exist regarding human rights and the $34 million, but that is a secondary matter for our strategy. What is interesting about this whole thing is that the war on drug trafficking is not targeted at the 250,000 impoverished coca farmers who are exploited by drug traffickers, but at the drug traffickers.

[Rojas] That is what I mean. What measures can be expected, without specifying dates, against drug trafficking and obviously not against the coca farmers?

[Fujimori] We will implement a development program for coca farmers, as we must not just take repressive measures. We will, for example, build a highway that links Juanjuito, Cache, and Tingo Maria and goes all the way to Lima.

[Rojas] Would that bring the prices of other products down?

[Fujimori] Certainly. That way, the rice and corn harvests will reach the national markets. Allow me to cite another example because we are not going to talk in abstract terms. We must build a hydroelectrical plant for Quesneja and Uchisa, for instance, as we cannot do a thing without electricity. Peru needs financing for those projects, as well as for the Santa Teresita airport for the Apurimac Valley farmers and the expansion of the San Francisco- Amanga highway. Those specific projects will help farmers. As for the drug traffickers who come in with their airplanes, we are requesting special weapons to fight them.

[Rojas] You talked about a period before an all-out, open war on drug trafficking that can be seen. I am talking about the drug traffickers, not the coca farmers, who are peasants...

[Fujimori, interrupting] Our Air Force is already conducting operations. The operations with the A-37 and Tucano airplanes have been very effective.

[Rojas] Has drug trafficking abated?

[Fujimori] Yes, but it continues, especially the night flights.

[Rojas] Allow me to interrupt you for a commercial break. [station break] We are back with President Fujimori. In the previous segment, we did not discuss the agreements with the Paris Club and commercial banks. People often hear terms like concessional and nonconcessional or think Paris Club refers to a social club. Why do we not try to give a more enlightening explanation regarding what has been achieved and what we owe?

[Fujimori] The Paris Club groups all creditor countries. In our case, it would be all Peru's creditors. They meet periodically to discuss our debt. They establish general guidelines and policies. What countries are in the Paris Club? The United States, Japan, Germany, France, Italy, and so on: all the countries that have supported us in recent years and that we owe money to. How much do we owe them? We owe $6.8 billion. How much is that? It is an awful lot of money. It amounts to a little over twice our total exports in one year. That gives you an idea.

[Rojas] Our total exports.

[Fujimori] Yes. Of this $6.8 bilion, we were in arrears on $4.8 billion up until 1983, and we are in arrears on $1.1 billion from 1983 to date. We refinanced $4.8 billion to pay not in four or five years but over a very long term, which fluctuates from 15 to 20 years with a grace period averaging eight to 10 years, depending on whether we get a concessional or commercial loan.

[Rojas] What is the difference between a concessional and commercial loan?

[Fujimori] It is simple. A commercial loan is granted to a country for a project at commercial interest rates, say, at the LIBOR rate plus so many points, which could be an annual interest of 8 or 10 percent. A concessional loan is granted to a country under unique conditions that are very favorable. To compare it to other types of loan, this means a 3 percent annual interest with a grace period of several years.

[Rojas] One can think of it in terms of a loan one can get with a high commercial interest rate and a loan one can get from a credit union, for instance.

[Fujimori] From a friend.

[Rojas] Right, from a friend who lends under favorable conditions. That is the concessional loan.

[Fujimori] That is the difference. The latter, the loan from a friend, is like a concessional loan. The former is a commercial loan.

[Rojas] And you still have to pay one's friend.

[Fujimori] We must pay all of them.

[Rojas] No matter how much of a friend he may be.

[Fujimori] Of course, if we have a negotiation and reach an understanding, friends generally give you favorable conditions; they may even forgive the debt.

[Rojas] Or reduce the debt.

[Fujimori] Yes, reduce or forgive the debt.

[Rojas] But you have not discussed forgiving at all?

[Fujimori] No. It is not yet time. Actually, we have a complete strategy to negotiate the debt. We are working it so that is has very favorable conditions for the country. This will provide us with some breathing room for the economic restructuring period. Condonment of the debt is not being discarded, however.

[Rojas] But it has not been discussed, has it? It may come on its own.

[Fujimori] What I mean is we do not have the right to speak of forgiving when we are discussing reintegration. Now, with the acceptance Peru is presently enjoying on a governmental level, and in light of all the support it has received, forgiving cannot be discarded.

[Rojas] How will the money that is coming, because there is money coming this year, affect the budget that you presented? By the way, the budget proposal that you presented to the bicameral congress has certain defects.

[Fujimori] All draft bills have certain holes, because they are prepared in the middle of the year and must be approved in December.

[Rojas] In a mad rush, also.

[Fujimori] Of course. Between July and December there is quite a bit of time and some adjustments must be made in order for the budget proposal to fit the conditions for December and the following year. Regarding foreign credit, for instance, we are going to receive an awful lot of money. Those funds were not considered in the budget proposal because we must always work with reality. The bicameral commission will then incorporate the money into the budget, according to the information we give it. Of course, it will have the corresponding expenditures.

Although the budget proposal is not perfect, it is realistic. I admit there are even several omissions, but more importantly, it is not voluminous. I hope that this style is kept so that the budget can be understood by all those responsible at the public institutions and by the people.

[Rojas] Should there be some legislative supervision over the executive branch and spending?

[Fujimori] There should be mutual supervision.

[Rojas] Is it not mutual?

[Fujimori] Not only should it be mutual, but everyone must insure that funds are spent properly and that resources are not wasted. My government will demand this at all levels. In my proposal I have designated this as a year of austerity. We are going to continue the year of austerity. We will not tolerate the existence of sectors that, despite the national crisis, have greater incomes than we do.

[Rojas] Is there austerity here at the palace, Mr. President?

[Fujimori] There is total austerity, and you can ask the butlers and ushers.

[Rojas] I have been told that there is no whisky at the palace.

[Fujimori] There has not been a single purchase of liquor—whisky or champagne—except in the beginning of the year when some wine was purchased, somewhat by instinct. Otherwise, no liquor has been purchased.

[Rojas] I think the direction of the economic program has not been adequately explained. What opportunities become available to us with this reintegration?

[Fujimori] I thank you for your question because it allows me to give you a summary. The first six month period was a stabilization period, during which adjustment measures were enforced so that inflation could drop from 50 percent to 20 and 10 percent. This has been achieved. It will be difficult for it to drop lower than 10 percent. If we project this on a yearly basis, by December we may be at 100 percent, which is quite low compared to the previous 2,300 percent. So the first stage of approximately six months was one of stabilization.

Then came the second stage of structural reform. We have taken serious measures to improve the operation of the public enterprises under the productive apparatus; we have lowered import taxes and improved the port operation systems. Did you know that the Callao Port is famous? It is one of the most operationally inexpensive and efficient ports on the Pacific coast; it used to be the most expensive. The shippers did not want to tie-up at Callao, but it is different now. There have been a number of reforms, such as the agrarian sector Investment Development Law and air transportation reforms. I recently traveled to Yurimaguas. There were... [pauses] There are four airlines serving Yurimaguas, which is a remote jungle town. In conclusion, the entire second stage involves economic restructuring. Then comes the third stage.

[Rojas] But wages are still too low.

[Fujimori] Pardon me, take it easy. You are trying to give me a small push. [laughter]

[Fujimori] We are entering the third phase now, that is, the investment stage is beginning. I am talking about massive investments by international organizations. I have told you about the $210 million investment in roads by the participating countries. In this period and for many months we have not enjoyed international technical cooperation. We have received cooperation

from Japan and Germany, but just a small amount. The resources will be coming. Those countries and organizations are willing. We are presenting projects and preparing new ones. This generates local and foreign investments, higher employment, and better wages in the private sector. We think our tax collection will improve. Do you know...

[Rojas, interrupting] You say think. You do not seem very convinced.

[Fujimori] What do you mean? Figures speak for themselves. Do you not know...

[Rojas, interrupting] No, I know they have increased, but you say they could increase even more. That is really very difficult.

[Fujimori] We collected $220 million in taxes only a few months ago and we are collecting $300 million now. What should we do with the $300 million? We must simply meet the most urgent needs. We cannot print bills. With the $300 million we purchase goods and services, pay wages, cover hospital services, and pay the police. However, as tax collection increases—we hope that it will reach $400 million very soon—wages will automatically increase.

[Rojas] Customs tax collection plays a key role...

[Fujimori, interrupting] It has improved enormously, has it not?

[Rojas] It has improved, but customs tax collection is still not playing the role it should as part of fiscal revenue.

[Fujimori] From an average of $2 million each day about eight or nine months ago, we are now collecting between $5 and 6 million. That is a notable increase. What is still lacking is some tax awareness. Everyone should participate in...

[Rojas, interrupting] [Words indistinct.]

[Fujimori] Our tax code still has some defficiences.

[Rojas] The exchange rate was also mentioned. Is it not rather daring to say that it will not change?

[Fujimori] We must improve it based on solid arguments.

[Rojas] The exchange rate must improve. You...

[Fujimori, interrupting] Yes, it must improve, but in general there is a stabilization effect that has made the exchange rate lag. However, this will improve because we want to give incentives to the exporting sector.

[Rojas] One last question, Mr. President. Your overall assessment about your trip is, as I perceive it, optimistic and I see that you are pleased.

[Fujimori] But I believe I am not alone in feeling this way, am I not right? You probably feel that way too, but of course, as an interviewer you do not say so. However, I am sure the Peruvian people share my feelings.

[Rojas] There was too much bad news. We needed to have...

[Fujimori, interrupting] Not only that, but there were economic gurus and politicians who were delivering speeches and speaking poorly about my economic program in an attempt to sow despair and frustation among Peruvians. That does not work. You know why? Because the Peruvian people are mature and will not be deceived easily.

[Rojas] Are you interviewing me now? [laughter] Mr. President, I thank you very much for your kindness. Do you wish to add anything?

[Fujimori] The IMF is not a monster as those people have claimed. It is actually an organization that wants to ensure that the economies of the countries get on the right path. If it was acting like a monster it was because populism and demagoguery were at work in our countries. These people viewed the IMF as a monster. The IMF has given us an extraordinary support. And you know who? Mr. Michel Camdessus, the man who politicians do not want to see.

[Rojas] How is your relationship with Michel Camdessus?

[Fujimori] Extraordinary. I believe his contribution has been essential in helping us return to the mainstream. I invited him to visit Peru.

[Rojas] Will he go fishing as you do?

[Fujimori] Yes, he told me that very few presidents have invited him, because the IMF is usually disliked. However, in Peru the people will welcome him because he has allowed us to achieve all this.

[Rojas] Yes, I believe that the general public's perception on these issues has changed a lot. Is that not true? However, we must talk about this some other day, Mr. President.

[Fujimori] I would gladly do so.

[Rojas] I reaffirm my gratitude and hope to have you back in the future to discuss other pending issues.

[Fujimori] Yes, I believe that there is a lot to discuss because we must talk about the future development of Peru. I would like to share a little more through the media, especially when journalism is done in a serious manner like this. I believe it is important to do this directly. Now we can walk together to a better future. Thank you very much and good evening.

[Rojas] Thank you.

Prime Minister on Border Dispute With Ecuador

PA2409041591 Lima Radio Programas del Peru Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 Sep 91

[Text] Carlos Torres y Torres Lara, prime minister and chairman of the ministers' council, said on 23 September that the border marker between Cusumaza and Bumbuiza, located on the northern border with Peru, will be replaced. He also said that the guardposts and security measures along the border are being discussed to encourage mutual trust.

[Begin Torres y Torres recording] I can assure you that the foreign ministers' dialogue has begun. We have discussed all the pending issues so that we can find a mutually acceptable solution. Once we settled the issue on the military patrols' withdrawal, we concentrated on the need to satisfactorily replace—with the appropriate formalities—the missing border marker between Cusumaza and Bumbuiza. We have also reviewed the guardposts and security measures along the border in an effort to encourage mutual trust. This is the best way to promote the mutual cooperation that we both want. We also reviewed the declaration issued by the Rio de Janeiro Protocol's guarantor countries and our negotiations are being carried out within this framework. [end recording]

Torres y Torres Lara demanded that the guarantor countries appoint civilian and military observers to guarantee peace in the border area. He admitted that problems have arisen concerning the implementation of an agreement reached on 26 August, and he issued an appeal calling for the Peruvians' unity and harmony.

[Begin Torres y Torres recording] We would greatly appreciate a specific proposal from the guarantor countries to appoint military observers to guarantee peace and the appropriate distances between the patrols and border guardposts—part of which has already been achieved. The observers could help us fully implement the agreement reached by the two foreign ministers on 23 August, taking into consideration that new factors have arisen after the verification commissions visited the site. New events prevent the full implementation of the agreement. I want to issue a fervent appeal for unity, harmony, and political responsibility from all political parties, institutions, and the media. [end recording]

The prime minister stressed that we must not be deceived by those who goad the people and exaggerate things because this will only favor those who sell weapons.

[Begin recording] [Torres y Torres] We must not be deceived by those who goad the people and exaggerate things because this will only favor those who sell weapons. For the time being, all I can tell you is that the talks have been positive and that we are working within a framework of cooperation.

[Reporter] Does a gentlemen's agreement prevail?

[Torres y Torres] It most certainly does. We believe the guarantor countries' cooperation and participation will allow us to appoint civilian and military observers to help us fully implement our agreement. [end recording]

Minister Confident of Border Incident Resolution

PY2409002691 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2328 GMT 23 Sep 91

[Text] Lima, 23 Sep (ANDINA)—Defense Minister General Jorge Torres Aciego today expressed his confidence that there will be a quick solution to the incident with Ecuador through demarcation of the border in accordance with the Rio de Janeiro Protocol.

He ratified that normalcy exists in the area of the Bumbuiza and Cusumaza border markers, where an incursion into Peruvian territory by Ecuadoran patrols took place some weeks ago. Moreover, he stated that the Armed Forces are alert to any eventuality; the population there must not feel insecure.

Torres Aciego added that within the diplomatic sphere, negotiations must be carried out by the foreign ministers of the two countries. To this effect, they met in New York on 22 September.

The defense minister today went before the Senate committee that is investigating relations between the BCR [Central Reserve Bank] and the BCCI [Bank of Credit and Commerce International] to present the information his ministry has about the transaction involving of 26 Mirage planes during the government of Fernando Belaunde Terry, a deal that was reduced to 13 planes during the APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] administration.

The minister excused himself from giving details to the press because, he said, the information is secret and the committee will determine if there were irregularities in the contract for the 13 planes.

He then stated that the Army is ready to attend to the needs of the population in civic actions. In this regard, he reported that work is being carried out at the Lima Maternity Hospital, and work has been carried out in the universities. He said the support that is provided is not limited to cleaning up, work is also being carried out in the health sector.

Fujimori Signs Credit Agreement With IDB

PA2309192091 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Report by Fernando Vasquez and Carlos Maureola]

[Text] President Alberto Fujimori has signed a $425-million credit agreement with the Inter-American Development Bank, IDB. This is the first credit for our country since 1987 and it ends almost six years of isolation by the international financial community. The

ceremony was held at IDB headquarters and the Peruvian president acted as witness of honor.

Following the signing of the document, the Peruvian president said the credit will be used to reform Peru's commercial sector. President Fujimori also met with OAS ambassadors, then held a news conference.

IDB President Enrique Iglesias praised the efforts exerted by our country to make this possible.

[begin recording] [Iglesias] This Latin American house is the house of all our friends in Latin America, therefore, it is your house. We have great hopes for Peru's future. You can rest assured that we will support your efforts with all the measure of our capabilities, and we will overcome our estrangement to become—as we have been and as we have always wanted to be—good and loyal friends of Peru's economic and social development. Mr. President, I congratulate you; I congratulate myself; and I congratulate the ministers and his colleagues, who have exerted themselves to the utmost in the negotiation process. I also reassert my colleagues' immense happiness.

[Fujimori] Peru has gone without credit from international organizations for five years. This has represented, for the people, five years without important development projects, meaning hydroelectric dams, highways, health centers, schools, etc. The importance of this evening's ceremony is enormous for Peru. It marks an important date in Peruvian history.

I started my political activities as a novice 14 months ago, and we have faced many difficulties, criticism, and doubts about our measures to modernize the country—but we never recanted. [end recording]

On the last day of his stay in Washington President Alberto Fujimori addressed the OAS Permanent Council. His speech highlighted Peru's position concerning drug trafficking. He also reviewed the new human rights issue and reasserted that Peru is a country that strives to live in democracy.

* State of Emergency Extended in Two Departments

91P40442A

[Editorial Report] Lima EL PERUANO in Spanish of 28 August reports on page B9 that a state of emergency was extended for 60 days in the Departments of San Martin and Huanuco (except for Puerto Inca Province), as well as in the Yurimaguas District (in Alto Amazonas Province, Loreto Department), La Convencion Province (except for Quimbari District), and Yanatili and Lares Districts (in Calca Province) in Cusco Department.

Suriname

President Swears in New Government Ministers

PM2309154291 Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 17 Sep 91 p 7

[Unnamed "own correspondent" report: "Venetiaan Rejuvenates Cabinet, Wants To Restrict Army Power"]

[Excerpt] Paramaribo, 17 Sep—In Paramaribo's Reformed Church Surinamese President Venetiaan today swore in 14 of the 16 ministers who will serve in his cabinet. It is still not known who will be the agriculture, animal husbandry, and fisheries minister (who is to come from the Javanese KTPI (Indonesian Peasants Party)) and the trade and industry minister (who is to come from the Hindustani VHP [Progressive Reform Party]). The Surinamese Labor Party (SPA) and the Creole Suriname National Party (NPS) had objections to the candidates for these posts.

Venetiaan, who was installed yesterday, announced "in the very short term" changes to the Constitution which would put an end to the position of power of the Army. Venetiaan called on all unconstitutionally armed groups to stop fighting and to come to the negotiating table to seek realistic solutions. He pointed out that the peace talks with the Jungle Commando are already being continued. He was addressing himself chiefly to the Tucayana Indians who are occupying western Suriname.

Venetiaan made it clear that Suriname wants closer ties with the Netherlands. "We must see to it that alongside existing cooperation, ties with the Netherlands must be made closer on the basis of equality and mutual respect and cooperation is intensified in the areas to which consideration can then be given. The government will initiate talks with this aim as soon as possible.

The installation of the president which took place in the Anthony Nesty Sports Hall was attended by Guyanese President Desmond Hoyte, Venezuelan President Perez, Colombian Vice President Corea, Netherlands Minister of State Max van der Stoel, Netherlands Antilles Trade Minister C. Smits, and countless diplomatic representatives.

The following represent the NPS in the cabinet: E. Sedoc, planning and international cooperation; C. Pigot, education and human development; H. Pollack, natural resources; R. Roseval, finance; R. Nooitmeer, regional development. Ministers representing the VHP are: S. Mungra, foreign affairs; M. Khudabuks, health; and R. Randjitsing, public works. Representing the KTPI: W. Soemita, social affairs and housing; and R. Setroredjo, interior. For the SPA: S. Gilds, defense; R. Simons, labor; and J. Defares, transport, communications, and tourism.

The new cabinet consists largely of technocrats. Most newcomers are relatively young. According to observers in Paramaribo, this indicates that in choosing these

younger men the New Front is paying some heed to the calls for rejuvenation in Surinamese politics. What is striking is the assignment of the Defense Ministry to the SPA. This party has always advocated taking a hard line with the Army. The Planning and International Cooperation Ministry is new. The minister, economist E. Sedoc, will in part take over the negotiations with the Netherlands on development cooperation. The appointment of W. Soemita is also striking. The SPA in particular had spoken out against his appointment, because in the seventies Soemita was found guilty of corruption.

The opposition parties and leadership of the Army and police have promised to work constructively with the new government. [passage omitted]